

THE LITERARY GAZETTE

Journal of Belles Lettres, Science, and Art.

N° 2149.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 27, 1858.

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ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS, TRAFALGAR SQUARE.—NOTICE TO ARTISTS.—All Works of Painting, Sculpture, Architecture, or Engraving, intended for the ensuing EXHIBITION at the ROYAL ACADEMY, must be sent in on Monday, the 5th, or Tuesday, the 6th, of April next, after which time no Work can possibly be received, nor can any Works be received which have already been publicly exhibited.

FRAMES.—All Pictures and Drawings must be in gilt frames, Oil Paintings under glass, and Drawings with wide margins, are inadmissible. Excessive breadth in frames as well as projecting mouldings may prevent Pictures obtaining the situation they otherwise merit. The other Regulations necessary to be observed may be obtained at the Royal Academy.

JOHN PRESOTT KNIGHT, R.A., Sec.

Every possible care will be taken of Works sent for exhibition, but the Royal Academy will not hold itself accountable in any case of injury or loss, nor can it undertake to pay the carriage of any package.

The prices of Works to be disposed of may be communicated to the Secretary.

BRITISH INSTITUTION, Pall Mall.—The GALLERY for the EXHIBITION and SALE of the WORKS of BRITISH ARTISTS is OPEN DAILY, from Ten till Five. Admission is. Catalogue 6d.

GEORGE NICOL, Secretary.

MEMORIAL OF THE GREAT EXHIBITION.—TO COMPETITORS.—The Exhibition of Designs at the South Kensington Museum will close on SATURDAY, the 10th of APRIL. Competitors are requested to remove their Designs on the MONDAY and TUESDAY following. The Committee tender their best thanks to the Artists who responded to their invitation.

JAMES BOOTH, Honorary Secretary.

GEORGE GODWIN, Honorary Secretary.

444, West Strand, March 24th.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY.—THE EXHIBITION OF PHOTOGRAPHS is now open at the South Kensington Museum, daily from 10 till 5, admission 1s.; and every Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings, from 7 till 10, admission 6d. A large collection sent by the French Photographic Society is about to be added. The Exhibition and French Omnibus pass every five minutes.—Season Tickets, 5s. each.

ART UNION OF LONDON.—SUBSCRIPTION LIST CLOSING WEDNESDAY NEXT, 25th INST.—Prizeholders select from the Public Exhibitions. Every subscriber of One Guinea will have, besides the chance of a prize, an impression of a large and important line engraving by J. W. Wilmers, A.R.A., from the well-known original picture by the late J. M. W. Turner, R.A., "Venice."

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T. J. BARKER'S LATEST MAGNIFICENT HISTORICAL PICTURE, THE HORSE-RACE IN THE CORSO AT ROME DURING THE CARNAVAL.—PREPARING FOR THE START. (Painted from Nature and from the Life Studies made by the Artist at Rome,) is on EXHIBITION from TEN till FIVE, daily, at the AUCTION MART opposite the Bank of England. Admission, 6d.

J. and E. Jennings, Print-publishers, 63, Chespie.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.—The Nobility, Gentry, Subscribers, and the Public are most respectfully informed that the New Theatre will OPEN on SATURDAY, MAY 15th.

Full particulars will be duly announced.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, March 24th, 1858.

HAKLUYT SOCIETY.—The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Society will be held at Four o'clock on Thursday, the 1st of April, at 37, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields.

MINERALS, SHELLS, AND FOSSILS.—A very extensive assortment of the above has just been received by Mr. TENNANT, GEOLOGIST, 148, STRAND, LONDON. Mr. Tennant arranges Elementary Collections at 2, 5, 10, 20, 50, to 100 Guineas each, which will greatly facilitate the interesting study of Mineralogy, Conchology, and Geology. Mr. Tennant gives instruction in Mineralogy and Geology.

TO THE CLERGY AND CHURCHWARDENS.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 27, 1858.

REVIEWS.

Recollections of the Last Four Popes, and of Rome in their Time. By H.E. Cardinal Wiseman. Hurst and Blackett.

THE name of Cardinal Wiseman is associated in the English mind not only with Roman Catholicism, but with that particular phase of it called Ultramontanism. He is the zealous representative in this country of a power which we have been taught to consider opposed to that moral, intellectual, and political freedom which we prize as our most precious birthright, and he has shown himself, from time to time, not indisposed to descend into the arena of religious controversy. Now, we confess that we hate controversy. We believe the only effect of religious disputes is to make people more bigoted in their own opinions, and to exasperate them against their opponents. We did not, therefore, look with much favour upon a book which, to judge both from the subject and the author, might be supposed to trench, more or less, upon controversies which have inflamed opposing factions with malice, hatred, envy, and all uncharitableness, for at least three hundred years, and which have given cause to much persecution, evil-speaking, lying, and slandering.

This natural prejudice was considerably modified before we laid the volume down. Cardinal Wiseman seems purposely to avoid entangling himself in disputed articles of faith, and dwells rather upon the personal, historical, literary, and artistic view of his subject. He takes Tom Moore's advice, to

"leave points of belief to the oxen,
To simpleton sages and reasoning fools."

and simply relates his experiences of Rome and her rulers in a pleasant, genial, gossiping style, thickly interspersed with allusions to the classics. It is to be expected, indeed, that he should present his readers with the best side of the picture. For Cardinal Wiseman to expose the faults and weaknesses of the Church in which he holds a high rank, or of the sovereigns from whom he has received personal favours, would be neither decent nor, indeed, possible. But it is easy to gather, even from his rose-coloured narrative, where the weaknesses lie; and the individuality of the characters of the several Pontiffs represented, shows that the portraits, though perhaps flattering, are, in the main, genuine. Pius VII. is the amiable, but weak and vacillating, prince, who, when removed from the influence of his firmer advisers, and brought into contact with the strong and determined will of Napoleon, narrowly escaped making shipwreck of his principles. In Leo XII. we observe a tinge of sternness and asceticism, combined with a determination to reform abuses at all costs: a most interesting character, and bearing in his tall and graceful figure, and intelligent and winning face, all the marks of true nobility. Pius VIII. is the type of the scholar and statesman, a great canonist, and a biblical critic; while in Gregory XVI. we seem to recognize something of the monastic coarseness and joviality which, combined with physical strength, enabled him to go straight to his ends without needless scruples, and to enjoy life meanwhile, though weighed down with the care of all the churches.

Cardinal Wiseman had unusual opportunities, for an Englishman, of observing the details of the Papal court. In 1818, he arrived at Rome, in company with five other

English students, the first since the Restoration to break the solitude of the deserted "English College;" and for twenty-two years he resided in the Eternal City with but few intervals of absence. His account of the first introduction of the party to the old house is picturesque:—

"It was something however to see, that first day, the spot revisited where many an English pilgrim, gentle or simple, had knelt, leaning on his trusty staff cut in Needwood or the New Forest, where many a noble student from Bologna or Padua had prayed in *forma pauperis*, as he was lodged and fed, when, before returning home, he came to visit the tomb of the Apostles; and still more, where many and many a student, like those now gathered there, had sobbed his farewell to the happy spring days and the quiet home of youth, before starting on his weary journey to the perils of evil days in his native land. Around lay scattered memorials of the past. One splendid monument, erected to Sir Thomas Dereham at the bottom of the church, was entirely walled up and roofed over, and so invisible. But shattered and defaced lay the richly-effiged tombs of an Archbishop of York, and a Prior of Worcester, and of many other English worthies; while sadder wreckage of the recent storm was piled on one side—the skulls and bones of, perhaps, Cardinal Allen, F. Persons, and others, whose coffins had been dragged up from the vaults below, and converted into munitions of war.

"And if there was required a living link between the present and the past, between the young generation that stood at the door, and the old one that had passed into the crypt of the venerable church, there it was, in the person of the more than octogenarian porter, Vincenzo, who stood, all salutation from the wagging appendage to his grey head to the large silver buckles on his shoes, mumbling toothless welcomes in a yet almost unknown tongue, but full of humble joy and almost patriarchal affection, on seeing the haunts of his own youth re-peopled."

Pius VII. created a great interest in England. His sufferings when carried off from his capital city by Napoleon, with exactly ten pence in his purse, with only one cassock—which he was obliged to mend with his own hands—and without even his spectacles, naturally enlisted in his favour the sympathies of a nation already exasperated against his persecutor. We for a moment forgot our national hostility to the Pope in our more bitter resentment against Napoleon. The consequence of this was, that he looked upon the English College with more than common interest; and the future Cardinal—its most promising student—naturally received many marks of favour and words of encouragement.

But Pius himself was not the only one who suffered in this persecution. Monsignor Testa, his secretary of Latin letters, was one of those who refused to take the oath to the French government, and who was consequently sent to Corsica, severely imprisoned, and kept on very poor fare. The country people used to bring a basket of somewhat better provisions to the least-guarded side of the fortress, when the imprisoned priests would let down a cord, and on receiving the word of command, "Sursum corda," from the Latin secretary, would haul up the good things into their cell. Many would blame the secretary for this profane pun; but we trust that the profanity, if it were profane, was not imputed to one who was suffering for conscience' sake, and whose merry heart sustained him in trials under which a more demure person would possibly have succumbed. Indeed, the cheerfulness with which all these men bore their reverses has in it something sublime. When Pius VII. and Cardinal Pacca were carried off by the French

General, Radet, they laughingly held out their purses to him to show him that all they possessed between them amounted to about seventeen pence halfpenny. The brutal soldier, in his report, observed, "Nos deux voyageurs répondent à mes procédés pour eux, et rient quelquefois avec nous."

The following account of art as cultivated in Rome in this reign will hardly support Cardinal Wiseman's opinion of its immeasurable superiority over English and Northern art in general. After stating that Canova was the true restorer of sculpture, because he imitated the ancient Greek and Roman statues,—a proposition from which we totally dissent,—the Cardinal proceeds to treat of painting, in a much more real tone of criticism:—

"But the same principles will not hold good in painting. Besides our having very little left to show us how the ancients practised this branch of art, we have another period of our own, which imparts to us all the practical instruction we can possibly require. Instead of this a cold classical school sprung up in Europe, of which David was the type in France, and the Cammuccinis in Italy, which sought its subjects in an unclean mythology or a pagan heroism, and its forms in the movementless and rigidly-accurate marbles of antique production. A raw, unmellow colouring, over-bright and unblending, devoid of delicacy and tenderness, clothed the faultless design of the figures; so that the cartoon was often more agreeable than the finished painting. There, however, you saw riders guiding their foaming steeds without a bridle, and soldiers dealing heavy blows at one another with invisible swords, of which they grasped tightly the bladeless pommel. And this was, because the ancients so sculptured cavaliers and combatants, from the difficulty of providing them with a floating rein or a brandished sabre in so frail a material as marble. Why should not the eye have been as well left without an iris? There is, indeed, in the Hospital of Santo Spirito, in Rome, a ward painted in fresco, with countless figures, all somehow made eyeless; but this was from the caprice, or malice, not from the classicism of the artist.

"This last yet reigns too much in Italy, where has sprung, in the mean time, that beautiful German school, which at Munich, Cologne, Düsseldorf, and Berlin, has produced such lovely works, and which, still faithful to the land that gave it birth, is there not only blooming with sweet grace, but is gradually shedding its seed on the fertile ground around it, repaying in Christian beauty the classical accuracy which fed its own root.

"It must be acknowledged that such works in painting as were executed during the Pontificate of Pius VII. in the library or museum, to commemorate its great events, are little worthy of their subject, or of Italian art."

The well-known portrait of Pius VII., painted by Sir Thomas Lawrence, for George IV., is said to be an excellent likeness. It certainly admirably expresses the Pontiff's character. Much sweetness and benevolence are traceable in the features; but the weak lines of the mouth, and the timid wavering expression of the eye, denote the very extreme of vacillation and irresolution, while the hands seem nervously grasping at the arms of the chair for support.

Pius VII. expired on August 20, 1823, and was succeeded by Leo XII., a man of very different character. His regular features, his clear, straightforward gaze, his somewhat square jaw, and muscular and compressed mouth, denote a leader of his fellow-men. A curious and interesting account of the manner of election to the only remaining elective monarchy in Europe, is given in the first chapter of this section. Then follows a description of the

ceremony of consecration and enthronization, when the triumphal procession suddenly pauses in its march up the nave of St. Peter's, and an attendant lighting a bundle of flax, which blazes up and quickly falls to ashes at the new Pontiff's feet, exclaims thrice, "*Pater Sancte, sic transit gloria mundi.*" At the celebration of mass which follows, the Pope communicates; and on this occasion it happened that the deacon whose duty it was to administer the consecrated elements to his newly-elected sovereign, was the ex-minister, Cardinal Consalvi, the celebrated diplomatist, and Leo's great political adversary. Many eyes were directed to the features of the two men whose positions were now so altered:—

"But the Pope himself, as he first rose, then knelt at the deacon's approach, must have defied the sharpest eye, that sought in his a gleam of human feeling. Deep and all-absorbing devotion imparted a glow to his pale features; and however his person might be surrounded by civil pomp and religious magnificence, it was clear that his spirit was conscious of only one single Presence, and stood as much alone as Moses could be said to be, with One other only besides himself, on Sinai. From the hand of his humble minister, he received the cup of holiest love; their cheeks met in the embrace of peace, the servant too partook, as is prescribed in the pontifical Mass, from the same chalice as the master. Who can believe that, in that hour, they were not together, in most blessed union?"

Leo's reforms consisted chiefly of the removal of oppressive taxes, and of proportionate economy in the expenses of the state. He also made a new division of the parishes in Rome, by which the labours and emoluments of the clergy were more nearly equalized than before; he reduced the fees and expenses of law-suits; he introduced improvements into the colleges and seminaries, which gave a vast impulse to general education in the Papal States. The works of Galileo and others of a similar character were removed from the Index of forbidden books, and some splendid ceremonies connected with divine worship, and which tended more to amusement than edification, were for ever abolished.

It was during this Pontificate that a lady penetrated alone and unbidden into the Pope's private apartments. Such an act was contrary to all etiquette; but Leo, good-humouredly ordered her to be admitted, when it turned out that she was an American, and that her object was to convert his Holiness. It need hardly be said that she did not succeed.

On one occasion the Pope unexpectedly paid a visit to the English College while it was sojourning at a country-house called Monto Porzio, among the Tusculan hills:—

"The Pope alighted, gave his blessing to all around him, then walked to the public church, and made his prayer of adoration. He thence proceeded on foot to a neat house in the little square, from the balcony of which he blessed the assembled inhabitants; and where he received most affably the more respectable villagers.

"After this, we had him all to ourselves; for dinner-time soon arrived. By strictest etiquette, the Sovereign Pontiff never has any one to dine with him in his palace. Not even a sovereign is ever admitted there to hospitality. During the genial month of October there is so far a relaxation from this rule, that entertainments are given out of the Papal apartments, sometimes in an elegant pavilion in the Vatican garden. And, during that season of the year, the Pope visits monasteries or other institutions out of Rome, where, on account of distance, a repast is prepared for him, of which the inmates partake. But, even so, the rule is observed of his dining alone. A

small table is placed at the head of the guests' table, raised just perceptibly above its level, by means of a low step, at which he sits alone, though scarcely removed from the rest of the party.

"It was thus that Leo XII. was situated, on the memorable day of his visit to Monto Porzio. The table was laid for him with elegance and simplicity; there was no display, no plate, no attempt to be more than things and persons were. We were in a college refectory, we were simple English superiors and students. The rest of the table was covered with the plain requisites for the meat and drink which supplied our ordinary repast. The refectory was a low oblong room, at the end of which, opposite the Pope, a large window opened to the ground, and was filled up, as though it had been a glowing picture, by a green sloping mountain, with vineyard below, chestnut and cypress above, and rich green pasture joining them to the azure of skies. The first observation which the Pope made was one not a little flattering to his English guests. 'It is seldom,' he said, 'that a poor Pope can enjoy the pleasure of sitting down to dinner with such a fine set of young men.' And truly the party did no dishonour to the bracing air which they first breathed on earth, either by complexion, by stature, or by sinewy build. How are they now scattered, above the earth and beneath it! Several worthily fill episcopal chairs, many are labouring, with meritorious industry, in the ecclesiastical field; too large a proportion have reached their hour of rest. However, on that day all were blithe and happy, joyful and jocund, under their Father's smile and kindly looks. For the Pope ate scarcely anything, and barely tasted drink. But he would employ his leisure in carving, and sending down the dishes from his own table; while his conversation was familiar, and addressed to all. He told us how he spent his day, partly by way of apology for seeming to partake so sparingly of the fare before him. He rose very early, perhaps at five; and spent the first part of the day as any other Catholic ecclesiastic does, in those religious duties which have to consecrate its actions,—meditation, prayer, and the celebration of the Divine Mysteries; followed always in the Pope's diary, by assisting at a second mass 'of thanksgiving' said by a chaplain. A cup of coffee, or a basin of broth, with no solid food, was all the sustenance which he took till his hour of dinner. He went through the morning work of audiences, from eight, at latest, till twelve; then retired for private occupation, rested, devoted an hour to prayer (as we learned from others), drove out, and resumed public business till ten, when he took his first and only meal. To say that it was frugal would be little; nor could we wonder at the accredited report that he would not allow his personal expenses to exceed a dollar a day, when we heard from his own lips that the dry Newfoundland stock-fish, the *baccalà* of Italy, was his very ordinary and favourite food."

On the 6th of February, 1829, he expired. His epitaph, composed by himself, appears to us to be a model of the lapidary style:—

"LEONI . MAGNO
PATRONO . COELESTI
ME . SYMPLEX . COMMENDANS
HIC . APVD . SACROS . RIVS . CINERES
LOCVM . SEPULTVRÆ . ELEGI
LEO XII.
HYMILIS . CIENS
HAEREDVM . TANTI . NOMINIS
MINIMVS."

To him succeeded Cardinal Castiglioni, who took the name of Pius VIII., and reigned only twenty months. His Pontificate is rendered remarkable, however, for having seen the passing of Catholic Emancipation, and for the creation of the first English cardinal since the

Reformation. The person selected was Mr. Weld, of Lulworth Castle, in Dorsetshire, a married man and a father, and well known in the neighbourhood as a county magistrate and a good sportsman. In 1815 his wife died, and on the marriage of his daughter, in 1818, to Lord Clifford's eldest son, he resigned his estate to his next brother, and in 1821 was ordained priest by the Archbishop of Paris; and on the 25th of May, 1830, he was named cardinal by Pius VIII.:—

"Soon after his elevation," says Cardinal Wiseman, "Cardinal Weld received a letter from the natural guardian of the heiress to the throne, introducing a distinguished member of her household, in which he was assured, not only that his promotion had given satisfaction to the exalted circle to which she belonged, but that should he ever visit England, he would be received by that family with the respect which was his due. Such is the impressed recollection of this interesting and generously-minded document, read at the time. Of course, a few years later, its practical ratification would have had to depend upon the possible humour of a minister, rather than on any nobler impulses of a royal mind. But there can be no doubt that on this occasion there was no jealousy or anger felt anywhere: perhaps the known virtues and retired life of the new Cardinal gained him this universal benevolence; perhaps the press saw nothing to gain by agitating the nation on the subject."

After the close of this short Pontificate, Cardinal Cappelari was elected to fill the Papal chair, and took the title of Gregory XVI. In the sketch of his reign Cardinal Wiseman appears to feel himself thoroughly at home. The first words the new Pope addressed to him were, "You must now revise your own proofs; I fear I shall not have much time in future to correct them." For it appears that, while still only a cardinal, he had superintended the publication of a work which our author was engaged in bringing out.

Into the political and ecclesiastical affairs of the reign we will not enter; but upon the literary and artistic discoveries by which it was rendered illustrious we will dwell for a moment. Niebuhr was now Prussian minister at Rome, and the school of Overbeck, Cornelius, and Veith sprang into existence with the revival of Romanticism in Germany. Another illustrious foreign sojourner at Rome at this time was one immortalized by Moore in the 'Letters of the Fudge Family,' where we read of the "whiskers of Gémamb." He was at one time the glass of fashion in London and Paris; but being imprisoned in Vincennes in company with Cardinal de Gêrorio, he gradually became changed in tastes and habits, and on his release entered the monastery of La Trappe, and was finally sent to Rome on business connected with his order.

But the great ornament of the Papal court was Cardinal Angelo Mai, the first discoverer of palimpsests. This indefatigable antiquary brought to light, from under the comparatively valueless productions of the Middle Ages, amongst others, the long-desired treatise of Cicero '*De Republica*,' the lost writings of Julius Fronto, letters of Marcus Aurelius, Antoninus Pius, Lucius Verus, and Appian, several lost books of the history of Dionysius of Halicarnassus, and the Gothic version of St. Paul by Ulpilas. His published books are very voluminous; but one of his greatest works, the transcript of the celebrated '*Codex Vaticanus*,' is only now about to be published. Accuracy was, of course, the great object; and to secure this a commission of able scholars was appointed to collate his transcript with

the original. The result is fourteen pages of errata.

The following anecdote is amusingly told. Speaking of Gregory, Cardinal Wiseman observes:—

"As Prefect of Propaganda I had frequently to see him on business, and found him most simple in his habits and kind in his intercourse. The clearness of his views, and quickness of his perception, made it both easy and agreeable to transact business with him. His confidence once gained upon such subjects as belonged more particularly to one's own sphere, was easily extended to other matters. I could give several instances of this facility, and it was extended to the time of his Pontificate. Not only was an audience easily obtained on ordinary days, and at usual hours, but it was graciously granted almost at any time, when the ante-chamber was closed, and on days otherwise reserved for private occupation. Indeed it was not uncommon to receive a summons on such days, with an order to proceed at once to the palace in ordinary dress. Once I well remember how this familiar kindness served me in great stead. I was engaged in delivering a course of lectures, already alluded to, in the apartments of Cardinal Weld, 1835. They were attended by very large and highly cultivated audiences. On one of the days of delivery I had been prevented from writing the lecture in time, and was labouring to make up for my delay, but in vain. Quarter after quarter of each hour flew rapidly on, and my advance bore no proportion to the matter before me. The fatal hour of twelve was fast approaching, and I knew not what excuse I could make, nor how supply, except, by a lame recital, the important portion yet unwritten of my task,—for an index to the lectures had been printed and circulated. Just as the last moment arrived, a carriage from the palace drove to the door, with a message that I would step into it at once, as his Holiness wished to speak to me. That was indeed a '*Deus ex machina*;' the only and least-thought-of expedient that could have saved me from my embarrassment. A messenger was despatched to inform the gathering audience of the unexpected cause of necessary adjournment of our sitting till the next day. The object of my summons was one of very trifling importance; and Gregory little knew what a service he had unintentionally rendered me. '*Sic me servavit Apollo*.'"

At the celebrated interview which took place between Gregory and the Emperor Nicholas no one was present but the Russian minister, M. de Bouteneff, and Cardinal Acton; and the secrets of that conference were never revealed. Nevertheless there is reason to believe that the comparatively poor and powerless monk was not overawed by the wealth and power of him who had cruelly persecuted the Roman Catholics in Poland, and by whose orders defenceless nuns were subjected to the indignity of the knout:—

"An English gentleman," says Cardinal Wiseman, "was in some part of the palace through which the imperial visitor passed as he returned from his interview, and described his altered appearance. He had entered with his usual firm and royal aspect, grand as it was from statue-like features, stately frame, and martial bearing; free and at his ease, with gracious looks and condescending gestures of salutation. So he passed through the long suite of ante-rooms, the imperial eagle, glossy, fiery, 'with plumes unruffled, and with eye unquenched,' in all the glory of pinions which no flight had ever wearied, of beak and talon which no prey had yet resisted. He came forth again, with head uncovered, and hair, if it can be said of man, dishevelled; haggard and pale, looking as though in an hour he had passed through the condensation of a protracted fever; taking long strides, with stooping shoulders, un-

observant, unsaluting. He waited not for his carriage to come to the foot of the stairs, but rushed out into the outer court, and hurried away from apparently the scene of a discomfiture. It was the eagle dragged from his eyrie among the clefts of the rocks, 'from his nest among the stars,' his feathers crumpled, and his eye quelled, by a power till then despised."

Before taking leave of Cardinal Wiseman, we would venture to offer him a piece of friendly and disinterested advice. If he wishes to conciliate the public, let him repress the rising sarcasm as he would the temptation to commit the seven deadly sins. Two or three telling sneers at the English press, English tastes, and English institutions, will create more exasperation in the minds of his readers against himself and the principles he represents, than can be appeased by a thousand of his good-humoured anecdotes, genial reminiscences, and personal portraits of Italian ecclesiastics, and their literary and antiquarian labours. The irreverent tone of the daily papers is no doubt very gallant to one who believes that a "Prince of the Church" is hedged in by a divinity more awful than that which guards the person of an hereditary monarch. But in these sceptical days, and in this undignified country, the Cardinal ought not to take the occasional buffoonery of the press too much *au sérieux*. The vulgar like buffoonery, and love to torture their victim the more he writes under their execrating knife. The Cardinal's red hat and lace petticoat are too picturesque and tempting for 'Punch' to resist them, and he would do well to laugh loudest at the joke. A sneer at the 'Times,' however neatly planted, will never persuade Englishmen to believe that on the whole the utmost possible freedom of the press is not one of the greatest blessings we enjoy, because it is the pledge and safeguard of freedom in every other department of social and political life. Let him not be ungrateful. But for the freedom of the press Roman Catholics might still be enjoying the blessings of the Penal Laws and the principles of Lord Eldon.

Sea-side Studies at Ilfracombe, Tenby, the Scilly Isles, and Jersey. By George Henry Lewes. With Illustrations. Blackwood and Sons.

Is going through this book, we have caught ourselves continually repeating, almost unconsciously, the old criticism,—“Sir, there are here things new and true; but, unfortunately, the things which are true are not new, and the things which are new are not true.” We do not mean to make the parallel absolute, for some of Mr. Lewes's announcements may be accepted as real discoveries in science,—at least until they have been re-investigated. It is painful to read a book on so fascinating a subject as marine invertebrate zoology, and characterized too by real talent, so disfigured by overweening self-conceit and personal vanity. A moderate degree of complacency in one's own doings may be pardoned: nay, without it no one would become an author; no observer would publish the result of his researches: but when a man, on the authority of a few weeks spent at two or three watering-places, assumes the authority of a final appeal from all the highest names in science,—when he presents his *dicta* with—“No doubt but I am the man, and wisdom will die with me,”—we pause before we can consent to repeat them with—“*Αὐτὸς ἴσα*.” It is “*ego et meus rex*,”—or rather “*ego sum meus rex*,”—from beginning to end; and Bergmann, and Leuckhart, and Victor

Carus; Quatrefages, and Hollard, and Milne-Edwards; Williams, and Todd, and Owen, must hide their diminished heads, now that the Master has spoken!

Mr. Lewes is a clever man, who appears to possess strong German sympathies; he is “up” in Goethe and Schiller; and having done “all that sort of thing,” he felt an ambition to do zoology; and now he has “been and done” that. He had been “led to read extensively respecting the structure and functions of marine animals; but of direct knowledge [he] had next to nothing! [He] had done something [what?] with ponds and their inhabitants, and was now desirous of ransacking the sea.” Accordingly in the summer of 1856, he spent a few weeks at Ilfracombe, and a few weeks at Tenby; and, in the following season, he made similar visits to Scilly and Jersey. And this is the *cathedra* from which he expects to decide some of the most difficult questions in animal physiology,—this the lever with which he essays to overthrow some of its most stable conclusions.

We do not by any means deny that the book before us has some good points. The author appears to have a real love and admiration of Nature, whenever the predominant love and admiration for himself allow it to come forth: his descriptions are often vivid, his narratives dramatic and humorous, though both are marred by being over-written; they lack the charm of simplicity. Perhaps the cream of the descriptive part is that which relates to Scilly,—the going thither, and the sojourn there. We cite the following specimens:—

“Contrary winds, and what sailors call ‘dirty weather,’ detained me a week at Penzance, where I was stranded in a lodging-house, kept by a middle-aged Harpy, rearing a brood of young Harpies, and rendered all the more fierce in lodging-house instincts by her condition of widowhood, which, you may have observed, generally throws a woman on the naked ferocities of her nature. Were you ever in nautical lodgings? Do you remember their ornaments, ‘above all reach of art,’—the cases of stuffed birds and fish, the shells on the mantel-piece, and the engravings irradiating the walls—a ‘Sailor’s Departure,’ with whimpering wife and sentimental offspring; a ‘Sailor’s Return,’ with joyous wife, and capering juveniles? All these adorned my rooms, which were further adorned by a correct misrepresentation of the brig *Triton*, as she appeared entering an impossible harbour of Marseilles, flanked by a portrait of the defunct husband, master of the aforesaid brig, painted in the well-known style—a resplendent shirt front, with a head attached, sternly inexpressive, on a mahogany background. The defunct mariner seemed blank with astonishment at my courage in coming to such a house—a ruin, not a lodging. Everything in it was afflicted with the rickets. The chair-backs creaked inharmonious threats if you incautiously leaned against them. The fire-irons fell continually from their unstable rests. The bed-pole tumbled at my feet when I attempted to draw the curtain. The doors wouldn’t shut. Even the teapot had a wobbly top, which resisted all closing. Nay—and this will surprise you—in the moral world I noticed a similar dilapidation. The discrepancies were painful. In the ‘bill,’ arrangements were made which showed fiscal genius; and when a suggestion was offered that the remains of yesterday’s fowl might serve for to-day’s luncheon, a look of pained reproach passed over the widow’s face, followed by a gulp, and a silence which was broken only by diversion of the dialogue into quite other directions: the look, the gulp, the silence, expressed, as plainly as words, the mean opinion which the widow entertained of her victim. Low as her opinion had placed him before, it had not reached such depths as that;

the request for a paltry remnant of fowl, indeed, was answerable only by profound silence. Thus it was answered. I never gazed upon that bird again."

Take also his first glimpse of Scilly:—

"The promontory on which stands Star Castle offered a fine breezy walk over the downs, resplendent with golden furze, and suffered the eye to take the widest sweep. How thoroughly I enjoyed that walk! The downs were so brilliant that one could sympathize with the enthusiasm of Linneus on his arrival in England, and his first sight of furze, as he flung himself on his knees, and thanked God for having made anything so beautiful. Ever and anon a rabbit started across the path, or the timid deer were seen emerging from the clumps of golden bush. A glance at the many reefs and creeks along the wavy shores raised expectation tiptoe, forcing hope into certainty of treasures abounding. Whatever drawbacks Scilly might possibly have in store, this, at least was indubitable—the hunting would be good. Not that any shadow of a drawback darkened the horizon; for what could the heart desire more? Here was a little archipelago, such as Greek heroes might have lived in—bold, rugged, picturesque—secure from all the assaults of idle watering-place frequenters,—lovely to the eye, full of promise to the mind—health in every breeze. Ithaca was visibly opposite. Homer's cadences were sweetly audible. Here one might write epics finer than the 'Odyssey,' had one but genius packed up in one's carpet-bag; and if the genius had been forgotten, left behind (by some strange oversight), at any rate there was the microscope and scalpel, with which one might follow in the tracks of the 'stout Stagyrte,' whom the world is now beginning to recognize among the greatest of its naturalists. Homer or Aristotile? The modest choice lay there; and as Montaigne says:—"Nous allons par là qu'est une friande gloire à piper le sot monde." (The *sot monde* being you, beloved reader.)"

But the descriptions of scenery and manners occupy a small portion of the work. The observations on zoology and physiology are what the author mainly relies on in his aspirations "*hominum volitare per ora*." Yet here, despite the parade of book-learning, and the assertion of so much local and personal research, the evidences of non-familiarity both with the names of things and with the things themselves, are so frequent as to compel the unwilling suspicion that some of the elaborate researches have been made up in London, rather than at Scilly or Jersey. Thus for *Crustacea* he writes *Crustacea*; for *Balan*, *Balan* (repeatedly); for *Perca*, a well-known genus of fishes, *Percha*; and for *Nemertes*, a genus of worms, he puts the name of the tribe, *Nemertina*. Now it is allowed that proper names in science may be misspelled without much derogation from the knowledge of the writer; but such names as these are "household words" in zoology; and an advanced student could no more blunder thus than a barrister could cite *Choke* upon *Littlejohn*.

At Ilfracombe the author describes his frantic joy at finding *Actinia crassicornis*,—a joy natural enough to one who sees it for the first time; and then he paints the process of chiselling it out of the rock. This also is natural enough, if meant to indicate a real fact, namely, that so the inexperienced operator set himself to achieve its capture. But surely a few trials must have convinced him that nothing is easier than to push off *crassicornis* with the fingers, as it never attempts to burrow in the rock, like *bellis*, *nivea*, and others. We pass on to his visit to Scilly,—the second season of our naturalist's sea-side labours. He finds that he is "in the land of marvels," for "here are the

snaky-armed *Antheas* in abundance." Presently a noble *crassicornis* reveals himself; . . . in a few minutes another, then another, then a group; at last such quantities make their appearance that the heart palpitates at the wealth. Was not this, he goes on to ask, "worth a few hours' discomfort on board the packet?"

Not another species is mentioned as occurring on this day's hunting; and we cannot help asking,—Is it possible that he who wrote this had spent weeks in examining the rocks of North Devon and South Wales? Why, *Anthea cereus* and *Actinia crassicornis* are almost as common as pebbles in the pools of our whole southern and western coasts. Beautiful they are, certainly; but it is not their intrinsic loveliness that here forms the subject of admiration, but their rarity: it was worth going over to Scilly to see such zoological treasures!

Further research among the Scilly rocks brought to light other marvels. "Stay! here are two cowries, and alive!" [The notes of admiration are the author's.] The shells every one has seen, but few of us have seen the animals: so the capture is very welcome. Here again we trace the veriest tyro. Who can look among the dark under-surfaces of rocks at low spring-tides, and not find the living *Cypræa Europæa*?

In this same pool, however, he found what must have been a real wonder. On a "bit of red weed," he observed "some polyzoa named *Plumatella*." Now *Plumatella* is a genus all of whose species are confined to fresh-water: yet its occurrence on a red alga in a tide pool is here recorded, and a magnified figure of the species is given! What is the value of either the observation or the figure?

In a note (p. 237) Mr. Lewes has an allusion to the "mare's-nest," and the frequency of its occurrence in "popular zoology." In his own researches he seems to have been unusually fortunate in meeting with this rarity. Not a few of his elaborate discoveries in physiology come into this category. The fact that in certain species among the Nudibranch and kindred Mollusca one and the same chorion contains several embryos, is put forth as new; but it is well known to others. In Gosse's 'Devonshire Coast,' he might have seen that the egg of *Antiope* includes not six, but sixty embryos. The same work, too, describes and figures the production of active ciliated larvæ by *Pedellina*, which Mr. Lewes announces, not without the usual flourish of trumpets, as "a new fact."

The principal physiological positions which Mr. Lewes labours to establish are the following:—1. The dorsal papillæ of *Eolis* are not organs of respiration. 2. The Mollusca can have no proper vision. 3. The *Actiniadae* have no true digestion; no chylaceous fluid; no power of searching for prey; no poisoning faculty; no proper ovaries. 4. Gemmation, generation, and growth are essentially identical processes; and the phenomena of Parthenogenesis belong to the ordinary laws of reproduction. 5. Sensibility, or "nervous conduction," can exist not only in the absence of nervous fibres, but in the absence of any nerves whatever.

It is not our province in these pages to examine the truth or error of these propositions. We will content ourselves by showing one or two points in which they are defective. Some of them rest on insufficient observation; some on inconclusive reasoning. The vagueness of the language, even when affecting great logical precision, is often remarkable:—

"Can motion, alone, be taken as the index of

life? Certainly not. But let us try to be precise in our language. Life is a complex term, indicating complex phenomena. In its highest formula, expressing all the requisite generality of what is included in the term, it indicates the triple unity of nutrition, reproduction, and decay. An animal grows, reproduces, and dies; these are the three capital and cardinal facts of its organism. Out of these issue many derivative and secondary phenomena, one of which is motion. In some animals motion can scarcely be said to have any existence. The Ascidians, for example, although of rather complex structure, have nothing which approaches to it, unless we should so designate the occasional contraction and dilatation of their two orifices. We may, therefore, conceive life without motion, and motion without life."

Who cannot see that in this passage the writer confounds *motion* and *locomotion*? Because an Ascidian is fixed to a rock, he says that it has "nothing which approaches" motion; yet, on removing the test, we should see the heart perpetually pulsating, and the blood-corpuscles running ceaselessly through their tortuous channels; the food-pellet rotating in the stomach; the feces passing through the intestine, and ejected through the cloaca; and the ciliary circles revolving, like a multitude of living wheels, in wonderful regularity, over the broad surface of the respiratory sac. Is there "nothing which approaches" motion here?

In his researches on the digestion of the sea-anemones, there is both vagueness of observation and inconclusiveness of deduction. Because he could not find litmus-paper altered when inserted into the stomach of a recently-fed *Actinia*, he concludes that no solvent fluid exists there. And mark the ground of such a conclusion!—"Solvent secretions are either acid or alkaline." Would it not have been more philosophical to add, "so far as they have been tested in the higher animals"? In the face of the well-known fact, that water, alcohol, oil, and other fluids, have a solvent power, though they are neither acid nor alkaline, to assert that "the *Actinia* do not effect their preparation of nutriment by chemical means," because the fluids of their stomach manifest no acid or alkaline properties, is surely jumping to a conclusion.

What will our readers think of the precision of language contained in the record of the following experiment?—

"I took a piece of quill of about an inch in length, open at both ends, and having six good openings cut in the sides, thus affording ample means for any solvent fluid to exert its action on the roast-beef inclosed in the quill. On examination of the ejected quills [ejected whence?] I found no appreciable difference between the contained meat and similar pieces of meat left in the water during the same period; [the same as what?] in one of them [one of what?] which had the meat protruding somewhat from each end of the quill, there was a maceration of the protruded ends, [ends of what?] which looked like a digestive effect; but on submitting it [what] to the microscope, I found the muscle-fibres not at all disintegrated, the stræ being as perfect as in any other part, and the maceration obviously of a purely mechanical nature. A similar appearance [similar to what?] is presented by meat after its ejection by the *Actinia*; it is pulpy, colourless, but the muscles are not disintegrated."

This is surely vague enough. We infer, though the author does not tell us so, that the quill containing meat, which he represents himself as "taking," was really "taken" by the *Actinia*; and that the "quills" [query, quill] were "ejected" from the stomach of the latter. But then he says, on examining the contained

meat, so ejected, "a similar appearance is presented by meat after its ejection by the *Actinia*!" Can a thing be similar to itself under the same conditions?

Waiving, however, this verbal obscurity, the confident assertion that no digestion takes place, because the solids of the food introduced in these experiments were ejected apparently unaltered, is quite premature. It is a fact abundantly known to those who have been familiar with the animals in question, that from the stomachs of the larger *Actinia*, the empty shells of mussels and the crusty integuments of crabs are discharged empty, except for a glairy mucus which covers and lines them. What has become of the solid fleshy parts in these cases?—the muscular, membranous, glandular, and other tissues? But granting that only the fluid parts of the flesh of a fish were expressed as here asserted, would not these albuminous and gelatinous fluids need to be subjected to a chemical action before they could be assimilated? And what is this but digestion?

Did space permit, it would be easy to show that other statements concerning the Actinoid zoophytes, put forth with so much complacency, are entirely erroneous. Such are the assertions that the tentacles of *Anthea* are solid; that the *Actinia* never seeks its food; that the ova are not contained in special and proper ovaries; that the *Actinia* possess no discerning organs; that their contained fluids hold no organic elements; that the thread-cells have no moribific power. On all these points we know that Mr. Lewes is in error; and, therefore, we hesitate to accept his guidance on matters with which we are less personally familiar. Socrates said of a treatise by Heraclitus,—"Those things that I understand, are true and well expressed; and, therefore, I presume the same of those which are beyond my knowledge." Conversely, when in our Heraclitus we find that a dozen of his conclusions on subjects that we happen to be acquainted with, are false, it does not greatly encourage us to take his testimony in the thirtieth, which we have not studied.

The plates at the end of the book present no redeeming character. There are seven of them, containing thirty-five figures, all of which, with one trifling exception, (that of the larva of *Nymphon*), are copies from well-known authorities, though not in all cases acknowledged. We say "one exception;" because, though the figure of *Sagitta* professes to be that of a new species, it is manifest that it has been made up from Busk, ('Microscopic Journal,' No. 13, plate 2, fig. 1.) with certain alterations, probably from notes. The execution of the whole is very coarse.

Rational Philosophy in History and in System.

By Alexander C. Fraser, Professor of Logic and Metaphysics in the University of Edinburgh. Edinburgh: Constable.

This slender volume presents a result something similar to that of a celebrated legal treatise, which has often been designated as "potted law." Though small in dimensions, it is weighty in matter, studiously varied in illustration, cognizant of a very wide range of thought and feeling, full of allusions to every important phase of philosophical system that has appeared, highly self-conscious, yet withal concise and authoritative. It is, in short, just such a handbook as may be expected to be drawn up by a learned and competent professor, who, while he feels it to be his first duty to teach the history of mental science, has yet his own original views to communicate upon

the materials under review. As a class-book, therefore, for a number of pupils, this treatise will find its primary vocation; it is only in some of the more interesting and unsettled portions of metaphysical study, where the author passes from statement into argument, from rules to reasoning, that the language becomes a little too curt and undeveloped for the general reader. Before his own hearers, Professor Fraser is enabled, no doubt, to unfold his propositions at greater length; but at present, like Pindar's lyrics, they need an interpreter.

Enough, however, may be gathered from the book to show that when the author expresses his private convictions, he is a successor of the dynasty of Reid and Sir W. Hamilton. He says (p. 91), in express terms, that "when the phenomena of the finite or conceivable universe are actually presented to the mind, we apprehend the Real in the very object of which we are conscious." He then proceeds to speak of "Representative Perception" as an attractive hypothesis to which we are actually drawn; and sketches the outlines of the theory, without, however, giving in his adhesion, but rather warning off the reader as from dangerous ground. Again he becomes more distinctly Hamiltonian when he comes to treat of the metaphysical experience of the Real as Infinite. He says (p. 99):—

"The real—presented or presentable to our consciousness—cannot, without a contradiction, in any conceivable meaning of representation, be a representative of INFINITE reality. One finite object may represent another finite object. . . . But in neither of these ways can the finite represent the infinite."

Thus far the infinite is the *not conceivable*. "But does the word mean no more than a mere negation of thought?" &c. Professor Fraser proceeds to state the considerations that arise out of this critical question; but unfortunately his limits are too contracted to allow him to bring them to a definite and rounded answer. It is here that we should like to have a fuller exposition,—a more instinctive self-assertion. But from these alps of mental disquisition the descent to the habitable regions of daily life is grateful and easy. The author proceeds (p. 109) to say:—

"Ignorant as we must be of what is meant, for example, by existence infinite or inconceivable in time, we may reverentially confide, amid our ignorance, and even by the help of our ignorance, in the constant supremacy of goodness and a moral government; and, without any obstruction from reason, we may yield to the belief that we are responsible and under external law in what we do. Real existence is at last a great darkness to us; yet we may travel onwards for ever through the darkness, under the conviction, and in the feeling, that this real and incomprehensible universe is a *morally-governed* universe, and that all things in the immortal life of the good man 'work together' for his good."

Other similar passages follow of a more practical strain. We have perused Professor Fraser's treatise with a high sense of the conscientious labour which has been devoted to compressing the wide range of matter here discussed, and with great respect for the learning which is manifest in the very turns of expression and indirect allusions. Perhaps this display has somewhat injured the simplicity of the author's style. In some cases a plainer and less accomplished diction would have conveyed clearer and more forcible ideas. Professor Fraser has struck out no great novelties; but he has helped to simplify and con-

solidate a science, and has shown himself an able and worthy occupier of the chair he holds in the University of Edinburgh.

Mitla: a Narrative of Incidents and Personal Adventures on a Journey in Mexico, Guatemala, and Salvador, in the Years 1853 to 1855. By G. F. von Tempsky; Edited by J. S. Bell. Longman and Co.

'MITLA' is a valuable book, well written and interesting, and doing much towards supplying an important desideratum in our literature. We are yet very deficient in real life-like pictures of the scenery and people of Spanish America, our travellers in that region having usually been either men of business, intent on politics and commerce, or mere scientific explorers, or naval officers "out on a spree." It required the double stimulus of personal ambition and scientific enthusiasm to produce such a monograph as Mr. Squier's on Nicaragua, for which, notwithstanding its Yankeeism, we are profoundly indebted to him. Here, however, is the narrative of one evidently well qualified to describe whatever might fall under his observation, whose travel was undertaken for travel's sake, and whose position exempted him from all temptation to confound the office of a voyager with that either of a political agent or a naturalist. The result is a very pleasing and readable book, informing us of exactly what we want to know. We obtain a tolerably clear idea how the Mexicans live in Mexico; and the next time we read of a revolution or a *pronunciamento* in that volcanic society, shall be able to form some notion who the combatants are, and what they are fighting about. Another interesting feature in M. von Tempsky's travels is the novelty of his route. Instead of, like most travellers, proceeding to the capital on the beaten road from Vera Cruz, he landed from California at Mazatlan in Sinaloa, proceeded inland to Durango, and thence travelled through the heart of the country as far as the port of La Union, in San Salvador, his principal halting-places being Zacatecas, Queretaro, Mexico, Puebla, Oaxaca, Tehuantepec, and Guatemala. It would probably have been impossible to select a better route.

The first stage, from Mazatlan to Durango, proved one of the most toilsome, owing to the physical configuration of the country. Mexico may be defined as a high table-land, separated from two low-lying strips of coast by mountain-ranges of extraordinary steepness. The ascent of these last is a laborious exertion, best performed by mules, and rendered yet more difficult by the extremely stony character of the soil. Arrived at Durango, the traveller finds himself on a broad plateau, intersected by deep ravines, and to which, in the cultivated districts, a peculiar character is imparted by long stone walls and hedges of *agave*. Elsewhere, the usual aspect of the country is that of a vast grassy plain, richly strewn with dahlias and other brilliant flowers. But we will let our traveller describe Durango for himself:—

"The gate of Durango, through which we had entered, is situated on an eminence, from which there is a comprehensive view of the town. Its greatest extension is from north to south, over a grassy plateau, many thousand feet above the level of the sea. Various isolated hills rise abruptly here and there, of which the "Cerro de Nuestra Señora de los Remedios" stands in the northern portion of the foreground of the landscape. Its precipitous ascent leads to a church with a white tapering spire, the airy outlines of which seem to

melt into the blue sky. At the base of this hill the suburbs commence. Straggling houses, with flat roofs and whitewashed walls, are dotted along, intersecting lanes of *agave*. These plants form also fences for orchards, in which the snowy and rosy blossoms of peach and apple-trees mingle with the dark foliage of the fig, the pomegranate, and the orange, festooned with climbing grape-vines. Farther on, the houses crowd more densely together, the flat roofs join one to another like one immense white parterre, and only here and there a tall cypress rises from the depth of an inner courtyard. Spire after spire comes in view, as the eye sweeps on towards the south; massive two-storied buildings dazzle the eye with their whiteness, and labyrinths of courtyards confuse it. Rising majestically above this mass of flat roofs, the towers of the cathedral form a picture of grace and strength combined; convents, churches, and a college, more or less gracefully, erect their spires and cupolas. Farther on towards the south, the compact mass of houses again dissolves amid the green of gardens and orchards, the long, concealed lanes of which are denoted by detached houses as far the eye can reach."

Alike as a mining, an agricultural, and a cattle-breeding country, the resources of North Mexico are very considerable; but there seems no particular prospect of their being ever developed by the North Mexicans. To the normal want of capital and enterprise, is at present superadded the paralyzing influence of a devastating Indian war—if that can be called a war where the Mexican *capulat tantum*. For several years the northern provinces of the republic have been the prey of a horde of Comanche Indians, glad to find an asylum from the ruthless advance of the white man in the United States, and making an easy prey of the feeble unwelcome race they encounter in Mexico. The non-military part of the population is too spiritless to protect itself anywhere else than behind the walls of towns like Durango; and the dastardly crew of starved, undisciplined ragamuffins dignified by the name of soldiers, take remarkably good care to keep out of their opponents' way. There are, indeed, good horsemen and good fighters in Mexico; and a well-organized corps of *rancheros*, or men of the great cattle-breeding farms, would, our author thinks, soon give a highly satisfactory account of the Comanches. But the government is too much occupied with its own broils to bestow much thought on the matter; and meanwhile the Indians have spread over six provinces, in every one of which farm-houses are burned, travellers murdered, towns virtually blockaded, and every description of traffic and industry suspended or destroyed. If the Mexicans do not speedily hit upon a remedy, one will probably be found for them by the intervention of the North Americans, who, when fighting on their own account, will probably behave in a very different manner from some of their countrymen engaged once upon a time to kill off the Indians at two hundred dollars per head. These soon produced a creditable number of samples, so remarkably like those appertaining to some highly pacific Indians living in the north-west, that the Mexicans refused to have any more to say to them.

A rugged road leads from Durango to Zacatecas, the capital of the mining district, built up and down, in and out, of the chasms and ravines of a mountain honeycombed by numberless mines. Here the sway of the Comanches ends, and that of the *salladores*, or native highwaymen, begins. After a smart encounter with a party of these gentry, in which our traveller was wounded, he reached

Queretaro, and found himself in a comparatively civilized district. Queretaro, indeed, is connected with the capital by an electric telegraph; but this, broken and lying on the ground, serves less as an indication of progress than as a homily on the folly of introducing such refinements of civilization among a people unfitted to appreciate them. A more satisfactory spectacle is that of a magnificent aqueduct—a memorial of the old Spanish rule. A stage-coach runs between Mexico and Queretaro; the towns on the road are generally comfortable, as well as picturesque; and, best of all, the government had actually begun to hang the highwaymen.

M. von Tempeky says comparatively little of the metropolis, rightly deeming that his predecessors have left him little to say. There can be no doubt that, with all its drawbacks, it is one of the most beautiful capitals in the world, with more of, at least, the external polish of civilization than any Spanish-American city, except Havana. South of the capital the country grows more luxuriant at every step, without ever parting with its picturesque character. Between Mexico and Puebla, indeed, occurs the greatest curiosity of the land—the immense volcano of Popocatepetl. Sunrise on this mountain is a magnificent spectacle:—

"Between an embosoming foreground of forest-clad mountains, their steep sides all feathery with dark green firs, arose Popocatepetl, like a glittering reflector of the whole blaze of the sun. Around all the sharp cliffs that converge toward its stately head, there seemed to play the lightning of sunbeams, dazzling to the sight. But, between the radiation of those crystal cliffs lay softer lights; here melting into rosy depths; there having their edges of a glowing red, like the sun's eye glaring through a storm-cloud. Such was for an instant the colouring and effect of the first view of this gigantic ice-prism; the next, its colours all swam in a whitish chaos; and then the summit shone again in a new phantastic configuration of millions of rainbows. These changes gave to the mountain monster a look of life. An inward pulsation seemed to tingle in the veins of its head, and anon you see it all hoary, cold, and wintry, making the dark blue of the sky look pale and ghastly around it. The wizard's countenance glows with animation; the bloom of roses sheds a lustre on his wan cheeks, and his snow-crown is a frozen sea of diamonds; and then, all suddenly melts into chaos."

Puebla, the second city in Mexico, is beautiful alike in situation and architecture, but of all, the most undesirable residence for a foreigner, owing to the surly and bigoted character of the inhabitants. The road to the frontier conducts through scenery of surpassing beauty:—

"How can I rightly tell of this immeasurable accumulation of mountains and valleys; how can I describe the combination of sweetness and sternness in the character of each separate mountain, where on the side of a gentle slope, the cactus, in rosy blossoms, bursts from amid the emerald green of a thousand differently-tinged bushes, enlivened by the smiles of a glowing sun; and on a shaded side of the hill, stand columnar cliffs, having their gigantic sides crowned by toppling rocks, crested by the airy fir that nods dreamily over the bottomless precipice! I cannot paint this scene of grandeur and beauty: I can but tell where it is to be found, and say, 'Go and see it,' to all those who may be dissatisfied with my description."

On this road, somewhat to the south of Oaxaca, lie the ruins of Mitla, which the author describes circumstantially, and which have furnished the title to his book. Mitla is

still an Indian village; indeed Oaxaca and the contiguous states are the stronghold of the aboriginal race in Mexico. Most of the villages are inhabited either by Indians of pure blood, or by *ladinos*, the mixed breed of red men and whites. These races seem to amalgamate but indifferently, and it is by no means improbable that the smothered ill-feeling of the pure Indians may eventually find vent in a sanguinary outbreak, as has already been the case in Yucatan. So far, however, the south has been less troubled by civil wars than any other part of Mexico. As the traveller proceeds southwards, the heat increases in intensity, the country in fertility, the forests in impenetrableness, and the people in indolence. The mountains lose much of their height, but preserving their steepness, prepare the traveller for the peculiar scenery of Guatemala, where the table-land, rent through and through with deep parallel fissures, breaks the country up into rugged isolated eminences and deep precipitous glens, all covered, of course, with the most luxuriant tropical vegetation.

Mexico is usually supposed to be a country in the last stage of dissolution, and assuredly there is nothing in M. von Tempeky's book to modify this conclusion. At the same time we receive a more favourable impression of the Mexicans themselves than might have been expected, and it is observable that the traveller's favourable opinion of the inhabitants of any place is usually proportioned to the duration of his residence among them. It is clear that the faults of the people are mainly attributable to circumstances,—they do not seem more timid or more indolent than Europeans reared in Hindostan; the Spanish system of colonial government sufficiently accounts for their ignorance and superstition, and, after the turmoils of their republican independence, the wonder is rather that any regard remains for *meum and tuum*. Against the faults thus indicated, must be set almost universal courtesy and hospitality, and much kindness of heart. They are anything but an unintelligent people; indeed it is lamentable to think of the amount of capacity in the country wasted for want of the opportunities of education. None of these things, however, will preserve the national existence of a people that cannot govern itself; and it is not too much to say that in this respect Mexico has, as yet, failed more signally than any Spanish-American state, except Nicaragua. There has been no unity, no cohesion, no conception of the duties and responsibilities of a citizen; no minority has accepted a defeat without an appeal to arms, no congress has met without quarrelling, nor any president been installed without being soon overthrown. In Europe a day's fighting in the capital will often effect a revolution; but in Mexico the mutual independence of the states keeps the country in a chronic state of civil war, and will probably end by breaking it up into a cluster of petty republics, to be absorbed piecemeal by the United States. This is a prospect big with danger to the best interests of humanity, for, if, as is but too probable, the institution of slavery should be established in regions so well adapted for rearing tropical products, the Southern States would regain that preponderance in American affairs which now seems slipping from their grasp, and all hopes of a peaceful solution of the fearful African problem would be at an end. In a few years this question will probably be occupying the attention of the world; at present we can only discern two means of

escape,—either that the North American states should become free Anglo-Saxonized communities like California, thus opposing an insurmountable barrier to the southward progress of the slave power; or that the Free States should peremptorily refuse to admit any Mexican community into the Union so long as slavery existed on their own soil. A more simple and satisfactory solution still would be, that the Mexicans should learn to govern themselves, and hold their own; but it would, we fear, be almost as rational to wish that Popocatepetl filled up Cronstadt harbour.

Affairs in Guatemala are considerably better, the people having fallen into the hands of one eminently qualified by his previous pursuits to deal with them—that is to say, of a pig-driver. Rafael Carrera, the Dictator, manages his biped as he formerly managed his quadrupedal charge, by a judicious admixture of violence and cajolery; and the happy results of his system are visible in the peace, prosperity, and comparative progress of the country. The truth is, that Carrera is a very remarkable man, endowed with great natural abilities, and a magnanimity from which potentates nearer home might take a lesson.

"I made the acquaintance of two brothers who had played a very prominent part in the last conspiracy against 'El Indio,' as they call their brown ruler. Both showed a deal of heroism, worthy, if not of a better cause, at least of choicer means for the accomplishment of their purpose. A scheme for assassinating Carrera had been set on foot, and a wide-spread mine of insurrection would have exploded by the success of their plan. A ruffian of an officer of the army was chosen for the execution of the murder. On a grand clerical festival in the cathedral, at which Carrera assisted, this officer mingled with the suite of the president, and came in pretty near vicinity of his victim. He had his dagger underneath his cloak, and, in unsheathing it, it fell from his hand to the ground. The clank of steel on the pavement startled every one; the consternation legible on the face of the assassin, and the dagger at his feet, told the tale of his intentions, and he was immediately seized and imprisoned. His examination brought to light, amongst other names of less importance, those of the two brothers, belonging to an ancient and highly-respected family, of Catalanian descent. They were imprisoned, and every art was used to make them reveal the names of other important accomplices. They remained firm; both were separately confined, and were told, at last, that at the hour of ten on the following morning they would be shot. At half-past nine, the first victim was led past the window of his remaining brother. At the hour of ten, a discharge of musketry announced to the younger brother than the elder one had remained true to the cause of liberty, and had defied the tyrant, and death, to wrest the secret from him. He felt sure he should follow his footsteps. His turn came, he was led to the place of execution, a freshly-heaped hillock marked where his brother must have suffered, and an open one alongside of it yawned for the reception of his corpse. He was asked by Carrera himself, once more, to reveal what he knew, but he remained silent; the blanket was thrown over his face, he heard the soldiers marching up within a short distance of him, the word of command, 'Present!' was given, he heard the click of their firelocks preparing to fire, and the command to fire was given. But no discharge followed. His blanket was removed by Carrera himself, who shook him by the hand, and said that he forgave him for his bravery. A similar trick had been played upon his brother, who had remained firm like him, and had been pardoned also. A short term of banishment was all the penalty that was inflicted upon them. This act of generosity in Carrera did more to cement the

foundations of his throne than all the streams of blood he had shed previously."

Nor is Carrera's government neglectful of the improvement of the country; at least we can testify from a personal inspection of the *Gaceta de Guatemala* that there is every appearance of a good deal being done. Unfortunately there seems little reason to believe that, under his sway, the people are acquiring those habits of self-government without which they will infallibly sink back into anarchy at his demise. This would be a great misfortune, for M. von Tempsky's account is calculated to interest us in Guatemala as a beautiful land, where the people are reasonably industrious, the upper classes accomplished and refined, and where the art of serenading, more especially, has been carried to the highest attainable perfection.

We know not how far M. von Tempsky may have been indebted to his editor, but his English is certainly very creditable, with just sufficient flavouring of foreign idioms to make it racy and original. We ought not, perhaps, to part from him without some allusion to two or three rather remarkable "travellers' tales" which ornament his narrative. After all we know no reason why, upon the road between Durango and Zacatecas, he should not have found twenty-seven Mexicans cut up as small as mince-meat. A traveller who sees so much for us may surely be allowed to see a little for himself as well.

Primula: a Book of Lyrics. Hardwicke.

We may presume, from the title of this unpretending and anonymous little collection of lyrics, that it is the first publication of a young writer; and as such we shall speak of it. None of these seven-and-twenty pieces is wholly void of the somewhat rare quality of true lyrical spirit, and some of them exhibit that quality in a degree which, if the writer is as *præmieval* as he would have us believe, is remarkable. In easy sweetness and flow of verse—the first condition of all lyrical poetry—the poems of this author remind us often of the best lyrics of Mr. Allingham and Mr. Kingsley, whom he also emulates in the power of handling his subjects with unconstrained brevity, and, as it were, spontaneous symmetry. We think that we do not praise the two following pieces extravagantly in saying that they might have been written by either of the writers we have named:—

THE BALLAD OF THE BOAT.

"The stream was smooth as glass, we said, 'Arise and let's away!'
The Siren sang beside the boat that in the rushes lay;
And spread the sail, and strong the oar, we gaily took our way.
When shall the sandy bar be cross'd? When shall we find the bay?"

"The broadening flood swells slowly out o'er cattle-dotted plains,
The stream is strong and turbulent, and dark with heavy rains,
The labourer looks up to see our shallop speed away.
When shall the sandy bar be cross'd? When shall we find the bay?"

"Now are the clouds like fiery shrouds; the sun, superbly large,
Slow as an oak to woodman's stroke sinks flaming at their marge.
The waves are bright with mirror'd light as jacinths on our way.
When shall the sandy bar be cross'd? When shall we find the bay?"

"The moon is high up in the sky, and now no more we see
The spreading river's either bank, and surging distantly
There booms a sullen thunder as of breakers far away.
Now shall the sandy bar be cross'd: now shall we find the bay!"

"The seagull shrieks high overhead, and dimly to our sight
The moonlit crests of foaming waves gleam tow'ring through the night.
We'll steal upon the mermaid soon, and start her from her lay,
When once the sandy bar is cross'd, and we are in the bay."

"What rises white and awful as a shroud-enfolded ghost?
What roar of rampant tumult bursts in clangour on the coast?
Pull back! pull back! The raging flood sweeps every oar away.
O stream, is this thy bar of sand? O boat, is this the bay?"

THE NIX.

"The crafty Nix, more false than fair,
Whose haunt in arrowy Isar lies,
She envied me my golden hair,
She envied me my azure eyes."

"The moon with silvery ciphers traced
The leaves, and on the waters played;
She rose, she caught me round the waist,
She said, 'Come down with me, fair maid.'"

"She led me to her crystal grot,
She set me in her coral chair,
She waved her wand, and I had not
Or azure eyes or golden hair."

"Her locks of jet, her eyes of flame
Were mine, and hers my semblance fair:
'O make me, Nix, again the same,
O give me back my golden hair!'"

"She smiles in scorn, she disappears,
And here I sit and see no sun;
My eyes of fire are quenched in tears,
And all my darksome locks undone."

The chief fault of the book is the fault rather of strictly lyrical poetry in general, than of the author. It is extremely lively, and yet unlife-like. It deals in sirens, nixes, sea-nymphs, and personified violets and nightingales,—not in men and women. We confess that we do not care a rush for such persons and personifications, and think that good verse is sadly thrown away upon them. The ballad of 'Fair Lissa' and one or two other pieces, prove, however, that the writer can deal with human subjects in a human and veracious way, if he chooses:—

FAIR LISSA.

"The snow lies hard upon the ground,
And reynard is there none,
The people hunger all around
From Vistula to Don."

"There is no fruitage in the wood,
No herbage in the field,
The fish have perished from the flood,
The cattle from the field."

"My brother and my kinsmen dear
In Muscovy seek bread;
My father lies upon the bier,
My mother on the bed."

"She shall have meat; so bind a cord
My slender neck upon,
And sell me to the Tartar lord
That camps beyond the Don."

Assuming that the writer is a young man, and these his first attempts, we think that, paradoxical as the opinion may seem, these poems would have been more promising had they been more faulty. Several of them are in their kind almost as good as they can be. The versification sometimes for twenty lines together, is faultless; the conception of the subject clear and congruous; the phraseology thoroughly good. Nevertheless, the total impression conveyed by these poems is not one which produces that feeling of expansive admiration with which the mind naturally welcomes a new thing in poetry. Let us not, however, pitch our criticism in too high a note. This little book puts forth no high pretensions; what it attempts it generally realizes; and it would be unjust to require more from it than

it professes to give. On the whole we are well pleased with this modest flower of the author's spring, and we will conclude with an extract which must please everyone who possesses a right feeling for nature, and enjoys sweet and expressive verse:—

"Now November, stale and sere,
Tends the sickness of the year,
And the stream is chill and slow,
And the blast will hardly blow,
Knowing every breath betrays
Beeches of their fiery leaves,
While the oak's are dun and small,
And the lime has none at all,
And the elm her branches froze
Burnishes and nothing more;
Now the mist makes meadows white
In the murk of middle night,
And the meagre moon is seen
Flinging in a cirque of green,
Like an old enchanted king,
Prisoner in a fairy ring;
Seek the miry woodland ways,
Where the fungus' self decays:
There we two will stand alone
By some ancient oak o'erthrown."

Memoirs of the Queens of Prussia. By Emma Willsher Atkinson. Kent and Co.

THE compiler of this volume is of opinion that an account of the lives of the Queens of Prussia cannot fail to possess some interest for the English reader, at the present moment. We do not dispute her assertion, but we cannot congratulate her on the manner in which she has performed her self-imposed task. It appears to us that history is a domain which lady-writers would do well not to invade, for to treat the subject aright demands powers and capabilities which women do not, nor would it be desirable that they should, possess. It may, however, be said, that biography is not, strictly speaking, history, and that there is no reason why, in this department of literature, female pens should not be profitably as well as agreeably employed. We do not deny that it may be so, but in the case before us the writer has shown herself to be unqualified for filling the office of chronicler of even the domestic lives of the royal subjects of her memoirs. Such women as Sophia-Charlotte, Sophia-Dorothea, and Louisa of Prussia, were characters of no ordinary stamp, and their careers afford sufficient materials for the construction of really useful and interesting biographies. In the endeavour, however, to render the book amusing to the "general reader," the writer has been led to conceal all the individuality of her characters beneath a dense covering of court gossip and irrelevant anecdotes, which do not in the least degree serve to illustrate the subject. But she has been guilty of other and graver faults than these: of misstatements, namely, and misconceptions, which have rendered her book positively mischievous,—for mischievous everything must be which gives to the mind false impressions, and distorts, in however small a degree, the image of the past. Since assertion is not, however, proof, we do not require our readers simply to take us at our word, but will beg them to form their own judgment on one or two instances which we shall place before them in support of our statement.

George I. was the father of Sophia-Dorothea, third queen of Prussia. During his lifetime he had always been in some degree favourable to her views as regarded her desire for a more intimate alliance with England, while his successor, George II., looked upon the King of Prussia—so Miss Atkinson tells us—with dislike. Now it is well known that the report that an old personal hatred broke out between

Frederick-William I. and George II., on his accession to the throne, was one which was entirely destitute of foundation. Yet it is on the contrary assumption that the writer grounds her explanation of the events which subsequently took place in Prussia, and which are traceable to quite other causes; and instead of Sophia-Dorothea's overtures having been coldly received by her brother and his wife, we have proof that they always showed themselves disposed to carry out her views, and that the double marriages between the two royal families would have been effected had not Frederick-William shown himself so decidedly opposed to the project. Into the true nature of the objections felt by him Miss Atkinson does not enter; nor does she seem to be aware that the insurmountable obstacles which prevented him from granting his consent, related to the secret treaty which he had made with Austria, and which rendered him averse to enter into closer relations with a power with which Austria was then at variance. The writer is also in error in saying that, in a treaty made in 1723, at Charlottenburg, relative to the marriage of the Princess Frederica-Wilhelmina with the heir-presumptive to the crown of England, the scheme of a fresh alliance with England was agreed upon. Nothing of the kind took place; it was purely an offspring of the Margravine of Baireuth's imagination, to whose highly-coloured narrative Miss Atkinson is indebted for a large portion of her materials for the memoirs of Sophia Dorothea.

Again, with regard to the attempt made by the Crown Prince, afterwards Frederick the Great, to escape from the iron rule of his father, there are several discrepancies between the story as given in the present volume and the account we have from other and more reliable authorities. Severe, harsh, and tyrannical as Frederick-William often showed himself towards his son, there is no proof that he really gave way to such outbursts of violence as those related by Miss Atkinson. She states that:—

"Had it not been for the intrepidity of two of the generals who composed the court-martial, to which was deputed the trial of the Crown Prince, and for the remonstrances of the allied foreign courts, to all of which Frederick William had sent intelligence of his son's arrest, the greatest king to whom Prussia has given birth would have ended his life prematurely like a common military deserter, a victim to the frenzied passion of his own father."

Yet when we examine into the matter we find that not only did the king offer no objection whatever to the opinion expressed by the court, that the prince's design had nothing in common with desertion, and that it did not become them as vassals and subjects to sit in judgment on circumstances occurring in the royal family, but that there is no foundation for the supposition that he ever seriously entertained the thought of putting his son to death. But the biographer having seen fit to exhibit Frederick-William I. in the character of an inhuman tyrant, and of a man ready on the smallest provocation to give way to the most frightful and ungovernable fits of passion, has diligently gathered together all sorts of apocryphal stories bearing on these points in his character, and then presents them to her readers as gospel. Thus when Sir Charles Hotham, who had been empowered to conclude the agreement with regard to the double marriages, had denounced the Prussian minister, Grunbkow, to the king, and had brought him

written proofs of his treachery, Miss Atkinson says that:—

"Instead of reading them, the king flung them down angrily, and said that he would receive laws from nobody as to the selection of his servants; and, entirely forgetting his royal dignity, in one of those explosions of ungoverned anger to which his own dependants were constantly subjected, he, it is said, even raised his foot as if to kick the Ambassador of England, and then rushed furiously from the room."

Yet there has long been no question but that this report is a gross exaggeration, as well as the *on dit* that the king afterwards went so far as to ask pardon from the English ambassador for the insult he had offered him.

In her delineation of character Miss Atkinson shows herself as incapable of discrimination as when she is endeavouring to trace the connection between cause and effect. We select an illustration of her failure in this respect from the same reign as the one from which we have already chosen instances of her shortcomings. Of Count Seckendorf, who, as Austrian ambassador to the court of Berlin, gained large influence over the mind of the king, she has not a single favourable word to say, although she confesses that Pölnitz, whose sketch of Seckendorf she has followed, "found scandal as easy as the count found lies," adding that that being the case, "perhaps the latter's character may be relieved of at least part of the burden thus laid upon it." No one who has any acquaintance with Seckendorf's character, will be inclined to endorse either Pölnitz's, or Miss Atkinson's estimate of it. His great ambition was to be an able diplomatist; and though the versatility which was one of his most striking qualities, may sometimes have interfered with the integrity which it must be difficult for diplomatists to preserve intact, still there is no evidence of his having "stooped to the most underhand means," or of "having intrigued with high and low," in order to carry out his ends. He certainly seems to have acted on the principle of suspecting every one to be a knave until he found him to be an honest man, and this may sometimes have given him the appearance of a wily hypocrite, when in reality he was only keeping on his guard, and endeavouring to elude the stratagems and snares by which he imagined himself to be surrounded.

We wish that after all we have said in condemnation of the matter contained in the volume before us, we could speak favourably of the style in which it is written; [but how would it be possible to do so when we are constantly meeting with such sentences as this?—

"Another thing, too, which is especially appreciated by the educated dependant who in England has groaned an unwilling thrall to the monied despotism of the middle classes, is that in Germany he is enfranchised, because the mind and not the money marks the social position of the man."

Amusement of a certain kind, those who take interest in court circulars and accounts of royal marriages, pageants, processions, and the like, will undoubtedly find in these pages, containing as they do much that will abundantly minister to those vulgar propensities, which were never more glaringly manifested by us than when England, a few weeks ago, bestowed the "eldest of her royal daughters," as Miss Atkinson terms her, "upon the Crown Prince, and, in all human probability, the future sovereign of Prussia."

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Essays on History, Biography, Geography, Engineering, &c. Contributed to the 'Quarterly Review.' By the late Earl of Ellesmere. Murray.

Essays and Remains of the Rev. Robert Alfred Vaughan. Edited, with a Memoir, by the Rev. Robert Vaughan, D.D. 2 Vols. J. W. Parker and Son.

Christianity in China, Tartary, and Thibet. By M. l'Abbé Huc. Vol. III. Longman and Co.

Transactions of the National Association for the Promotion of Social Science, 1857. J. W. Parker and Son.

God's Acre; or, Historical Notices relating to Churchyards. By Mrs. Stone. J. W. Parker and Son.

A History of the English Language. By John Edwards. Longman and Co.

The Wayfarers; or, Toil and Rest. By Mrs. P. M. Latham. Bell and Daldy.

A Lawyer's Quarrel; or, the County Ball. By the Author of 'Cousin Geoffrey,' &c. 3 Vols. Hurst and Blackett.

The Old Palace. By Julia Tilt. 2 Vols. Bentley.

Cream. By Charles Reade. Trübner and Co.

The Bayeux Tapestry; an Historical Tale of the Eleventh Century. From the French of Madame Emma L.—Brighton: H. and C. Treacher. London: Hamilton, Adams, and Co.

A Catechism on Chemistry; including Heat, Magnetism, and Electricity. By the Rev. J. W. Neat, M.A. Longman and Co.

Naples and King Ferdinand: an Historical and Political Sketch of the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies. By Elizabeth Dawbarn. L. Booth.

Labour and Triumph: the Life and Times of Hugh Miller. By Thomas N. Brown. H. Griffin and Co.

End Results of Over-Feeding Cattle; a New Inquiry. By Frederick James Gant. Churchill.

Cambridge Greek and Latin Texts: The Tragedies of Æschylus. Cambridge: Deighton, Bell, and Co. London: Whittaker and Co.

Exercises adapted to the New and Complete Course of Grammatical and Idiomatic Studies of the French Language. By Auguste Aigre de Charente. Longman and Co.

Outlines of Geology. Myers and Co.

The Bayeux Tapestry is a translation from the French of a tale founded on the history of the Norman Conquest, illustrated by drawings of the celebrated tapestry, said to have been worked by Matilda, William the Conqueror's consort. The drawings are interesting, but the story, like most tales founded on well-known historical events, is somewhat insipid. The Conquest of England is too large a subject to be adequately treated in so small a compass.

A Catechism on Chemistry will be found a useful book by those who want to acquire or systematize their knowledge for the purpose of passing an examination. It is simple, and at the same time scientific and comprehensive.

At the present time all eyes are turned upon Naples, the country where the principles of despotism and obscurantism are supposed to be carried out to their most extreme results, and the public would gladly welcome an authentic account of its social and political condition. In *Naples and King Ferdinand* Mrs. (?) Dawbarn professes to supply this desideratum; but the manifestly hostile tone of the work, and the fact that the statements are supported by no authorities, tend to diminish the reader's confidence in its impartiality. Indeed, it would not be difficult to show that in some cases incompatible views are attributed to the king.

The Life and Times of Hugh Miller is only a peg on which to hang the history of the "Free Church" movement in Scotland. It is chiefly as a geologist, and author of 'The Testimony of the Rocks,' that Hugh Miller is known south of the Tweed. But in his native country his scientific reputation is eclipsed by his fame as the editor of a paper called 'The Witness,' which was, and is for all we know, the organ of the large section of Scottish Presbyterians who seceded from the established church on the question of the right of congregations to elect their preacher. The grandson of a buccaner, and son of a sailor of Cromarty, Hugh Miller, after receiving the somewhat superior education which is generally within the reach of the Scottish peasantry, became a quarryman, in which capacity he acquired the taste for geological studies and the knowledge of the structure of the rocks which ultimately made him so eminent as a geologist. His father was lost at sea whilst he

was yet a boy; and at the moment the shipwreck occurred, he saw, or thought he saw, a ghastly vision of a dismembered hand and arm coming towards him. The believers in supernatural apparition may therefore count him as an additional witness to the truth of their belief. But it must be remembered that he destroyed himself while labouring under a fit of insanity which took this very form. Lord Castlereagh related to Sir Walter Scott that a ghastly figure once appeared to him while lying in his bed. These visions may therefore be taken as not unusual symptoms of suicidal mania. Miller's abilities were evidently thrown away in the humble labours of a quarryman, and he was soon selected to manage a country bank which had just been established. Here he laboured at the desk for many years, occasionally writing in newspapers and periodicals. Meanwhile the question of the right of parishes to elect their own preachers was agitating the Scottish public, and on the decision in the House of Lords which decided the legal question in favour of the lay-patrons, Hugh Miller wrote a pamphlet, in the form of a letter to Lord Brougham, which excited much attention, and obtained for him the editorship of 'The Witness,' which the Free Church was then about to establish. From this time Mr. Brown is so much occupied with the history of the Free Church agitation that he has little to tell about Hugh Miller. We cannot say much in favour of this biography. It is written in the fiercest spirit of Calvinism, and in that intolerably inflated style which, we observe, finds favour north of the Tweed. Mr. Brown does not "homologate" certain statements; and Scott and his school of writers are said to have "looked at their [the Puritans'] characters through the tears of Mary Stuart." The discipline of Calvin—who condemned a woman to be burned alive "for having sung immodest songs"—is commended, as "bearing the fairest fruits by the banks of the Leman Lake." Burns is degraded from the rank of one of the "representative men" of Scotland, for having written 'The Holy Fair,' and Walter Scott, because he was only a "relic of feudalism," while Hugh Miller, as a hero, is classed in a triad with Wallace and Knox; and as a writer, above Addison, Goldsmith, Swift, Steele, Richardson, and Fielding. A whole chapter is devoted to a lecture addressed to Mr. Dickens, on the wickedness of his anti-Sabbatarian principles; and, indeed, throughout the book the incidents of Hugh Miller's life bear a secondary place.

Mr. Frederick James Gant suspecting that there was something wrong in our system of feeding cattle, examined the prize animals at the last exhibition, both alive and after they had been slaughtered. In *End Results of Overfeeding Cattle* he gives the substance of his diagnosis. A vast number of the prize animals exhibited by the Prince Consort, Lord Berners, the Earl of Leicester, and other eminent agriculturalists, appeared, from the most cursory examination, to be suffering under various diseases arising from over-fatness, and a post mortem examination disclosed the fact, that in almost all the heart was in a morbid state, and the lungs and liver ulcerated. Beasts in this condition, Mr. Gant contends, should not only not receive a prize, but ought to be condemned as unfit for human food.

The last addition to the beautiful series of the Cambridge Greek and Latin Texts is *The Tragedies of Æschylus*. The text is that of Paley. Some short prolegomena are prefixed, and a copious index of words and names is subjoined. For beauty of paper, clearness of type, and portability this edition is unrivalled.

Exercises adapted to the New and Complete Course of Grammatical and Idiomatic Studies of the French Language are the second volume of a course of elementary books on the French language, compiled by M. de Charente for the use of the cadets in the academy at Woolwich. The exercises are divided into three classes—practical, theoretical, and colloquial. The first are intended

chiefly to teach the pronunciation of the language; the second, to impress the idiomatic construction on the mind; and the third, to enable the learner to join in conversation in the French language. This useful little book is dedicated to Major-General Sir Frederick Smith, and is in use at the Royal Military College.

Outlines of Geology is nicely written; but, like most others of its class, it is a mere detail of geological facts which falls short of its intention, as all outlines of science must necessarily do, when generalization is made subservient to merely "interesting" details. The "Synopsis of the Geological Rocks," (Qy. What other rocks exist?) is generally correct, although the organic remains are arranged without sufficient regard to their natural-history order. The book is intended as a companion to collections of geological specimens; but in this respect it is comparatively useless; and the series of accompanying specimens are too small to be of much practical benefit.

New Editions.

Letters on Egypt, Edom, and the Holy Land. By Lord Lindsay. Fifth Edition. Bohn.

The Geology of Extinct Volcanoes of Central France. By G. Poulet Scrope, M.P. Second Edition, Enlarged and improved. Murray.

The History of England from the Accession of James II. By Lord Macaulay. Vol. V. Longman and Co.

To the fifth edition of Lord Lindsay's well-known and universally-admired *Letters on Egypt, Edom, and the Holy Land* are prefixed a preface and additional notes, in which the recent important discoveries in Eastern Africa are noticed when they bear upon the subject of the work. Among these discoveries Lord Lindsay enumerates the sarcophagi enshrining the mummies of the Bull Apis, found in the Pyramids by Lepsius; and the tombs of the officers of state under the Pharaohs who built the Pyramids; the identification of Dothan, or "the two wells," the scene of Joseph's visit to his brethren, and of his sale to the Midianites, by M. van de Velde and Dr. Robinson; the identification of Emmaus and Pella, by Dr. Robinson; the discovery by Mr. Porter of a circular temple of Baal on the eastern summit of Mount Hermon, supposed to be the earliest relic of the primeval worship of Syria remaining; and a detailed description by Mr. Potter and Dr. Robinson of a curious monument on the road from Baalbec to Riblah. Among the points of interest discussed in the notes is the question whether Gebel Serbal be the Sinai of Exodus. Lord Lindsay states the lamentable fact that since the iron rule of Ibrahim Pasha has been removed, Syria is becoming more and more barbarous. In places where Lord Lindsay was accustomed to wander unharmed, travellers are now subjected to insults and contumely,—to robbery and attempts to murder. Strange as it may appear, our alliance with the Eastern nations in the war with Russia, appears to have only had the effect of exasperating them against us. There seems some hope that the principles of toleration may be generally adopted by Christians; but persecution and propagandism by fire and sword are an essential element of Mohammedanism. The preface and additional notes bring this originally most entertaining and accurate account of the very interesting countries of which it treats, abreast with the latest discoveries of the day. The illustrations are good; but we trust that all future travellers will adopt the system of illustrating their works by photo-stereographs, after the example of Professor Piazza Smyth, who justly considers them the only efficient check upon the pencils and imaginations of travellers.

We gladly welcome the second edition of Mr. Scrope's very excellent work, *The Geology and Extinct Volcanoes of France*. Some of the introductory chapters of this edition are recast; but the body of the work remains the same as the edition of 1826, and the author finds no reason to alter the conclusion he had come to in 1821.

Catalogues of the fossil Fauna of this interesting district are given, from the works of MM. Pomel and Aymard, in an appendix, to which the text refers. The illustrations are excellently engraved on wood, on a reduced scale, and the maps of the "Chain of Puys, west of Clermont," and "Central France," are very conveniently folded, and placed in pockets of the covers. It is now really a tourist's book. It is portable, and, in this respect, as well as the style in which it is produced, it is a great improvement on the last edition. Now that intellectual tourists do not allow the geological features of a country to escape the eye, it is presumed that none will henceforward proceed to the interesting district of Auvergne without Mr. Scrope's valuable book as a companion.

Miscellaneous, Pamphlets, &c.

The Late Genoese Insurrection Defended. Parties in Italy: What are they? What have they done? By Joseph Mazzini. Holyoake and Co.
The Working Men's College: Third Report. 1858.
The Seaman's Pocket Annual for 1858. Compiled by John J. Mayo, Esq. O'Byrne Brothers.

The late *Genoese Insurrection Defended* is M. Mazzini's last manifesto to the deluded men who are so foolish as to accept him for their leader. He defends the insane attempt of a few desperadoes to overturn the only government in Italy which is founded upon constitutional principles, because Sardinia, taught by sad experience, refuses to constitute herself the armed propagandist of republicanism. M. Mazzini's one idea, his one political aspiration, is a republic of Italy; and since Sardinia prefers the good government and national freedom which is within her reach, to the pursuit of M. Mazzini's Italianized Utopia, Sardinia must be destroyed. And how? By insurrections and civil war. This, truly, is a strange mode of obtaining unity. "We seek to Italianize Piedmont," says the pamphlet; "to us the constitution is but a victory won by four millions and a half of our countrymen; a victory which enables them best to serve the national cause. For you [the Sardinians] Piedmont and the constitution are things *per se*, to be preserved, even at the expense of the national cause. You accept,—not from want of better aspirations, but from want of moral courage,—the fatal *dualism*, which, as I have already said, is the plague-spot of Italy." M. Mazzini is like the child who kicks, scratches, and bites, because the nurse cannot get it the moon to play with. There never did exist a kingdom of Italy. Rome in her palmist days never made common cause with Lombardy, any more than she did with Britain or Gaul. There were free states in Italy in the Middle Ages, but no such thing as Italian unity. The fact that such a thing as a kingdom or republic of Italy never did exist, is not indeed a conclusive proof against the possibility of its existence. By a series of fortunate circumstances, such a national feeling and capacity for self-government might be formed, as that a number of free Italian states might become conglomeraled into one. But it is by the gradual formation of such free states, and not by endless insurrections and civil wars, that such a consummation can be accomplished. It is only necessary to read M. Mazzini's pamphlet to be convinced that one idea can obtain such complete possession of a man's mind as utterly to drive out common sense.

The Council of the Working Men's College have just issued their *Third Report*. The College, having become possessed of some freehold property, has been incorporated under the Act 19 and 20 Vict. c. 47, and its affairs are managed by a council of teachers. Finding its old quarters too narrow for its increased action, it has removed to a larger house, with a garden at the back, which has been fitted up as a gymnasium. In last term 17 working carpenters, 23 cabinet-makers, upholsterers, pianoforte-makers, gilders, frame-makers, and decorators; 13 jewellers, 9

draughtsmen, 4 smiths, 25 printers, 13 boot-makers and tailors, and 15 miscellaneous (or, as an American would say, promiscuous) persons attended the classes. The total receipts for the year were 932*l.* 9*s.* We cordially congratulate the promoters of this truly useful undertaking on their success.

A very useful little work entitled *The Seaman's Pocket Annual for 1858*, has been compiled by Mr. Mayo, for the benefit of sailors, and published with the approval of the Board of Trade. It contains an almanack, plates of the different flags in use as national ensigns or for signals, an analysis of the Merchant Shipping Act, tables of foreign coinages, directions for saving life at sea, sanitary regulations, and much useful information of the same description. It is bound in a limp cover for the sake of portability, and ought to form part of every sailor's outfit.

ARTICLES AND COMMUNICATIONS.

THE LITERARY FUND.

"PRAY, sir," inquires Papillon, in utter amazement at one of his master's flights of imagination, "are you often visited with these waking dreams?" "Dreams!" demands the Liar, "what dost mean by dreams?" "Those ornamental reveries," rejoins the other; "those frolics of fancy, which, in the judgment of the vulgar, would be deemed absolute flams." This description accurately applies to an article which appeared in last week's *'Athenæum'* on the Literary Fund, with this exception, that, unlike the "ornamental reveries" of Young Wilding, the "absolute flams" of our stolid contemporary are exceedingly dull. His ambition is equal to the most audacious attempts in this way, but unfortunately his genius is not capable of rendering them lively. He has a remarkable invention, but no imagination. He does not know how to set off a flam so as to make it attractive, or even to make it "lie like truth," and the consequence is that the fictions of which he is so industrious a producer, are at once transparent and dreary. His article of last week abounds, even more than is usual with him, in fabulous speculations (to call his misstatements by a gentler term than they deserve), and it is, in proportion, more than usually flat. He returns to the subject of 1802, upon which his previous assertions, as exhibited in the memorable 'Case,' were annihilated by a plain relation of authentic facts; and in his awkward efforts to maintain a false position, he flounders into new and still more extravagant complications of the original misrepresentation.

The "Reformers," he tells us in this article, "had stated, in the 'Case,' that in 1802 there were 394 annual subscribers." In order to prove that the Reformers were right, he endeavours to show, by an elaborate mystification of the accounts, that the imaginary 394 annual subscribers belonged to the year 1800—that is, the year beginning in April 1800, and ending in April 1801! If the one statement be true, the other must be untrue; and if there be accounts to support it, there must exist definite evidence of the fact, one way or the other. We cannot suffer the *'Athenæum'* to take the accounts of one year, and adapt them to the subscribers of another, or to assume at will, that the same subscribers belong to different years, as it may suit his purposes in the argument. In this very article, these 394 subscribers, who in reality never had any existence at all, are distinctly stated as representing the annual subscribers of no less than three different years: 1800, according to the account with which the writer tries to connect them; 1801, to which year he says, in another place, he thinks it "probable" the list applies; and 1802, as boldly asserted by the "Reformers."—"Which is the Duke of Wellington? Whichever you please, my little man; you pay your money, and may take your choice!"

And touching this same year 1802, the *'Athenæum'* informs the reader, who has no means whatever of testing the veracity of the writer, that this list of subscribers being "published in 1802, is called the list for 1802." It is only proper the reader should be apprized that this is what Papillon calls an "absolute flam." The list is not called the list for 1802, nor is there a single word or sentence in connection with it to justify even the assumption that it is the list for 1802. It is published in a book, called *'The Claims of Literature,'* written by Mr. Williams, and it is simply headed 'Subscribers.' That heading, and the explanations of the different classes of subscribers placed immediately under it, indicate, indeed, plainly enough that the list covers a period of several years; but beyond that general implication, there is no clue or guide whatever supplied by the book to the date or duration of time embraced by the list. The speculations of the *'Athenæum'* are mere moonshine, and very dim moonshine, too. Driven to the last extremity in his experiment upon the account to reconcile it to his suppositions number of subscribers, and finding that, with all his dexterity, he cannot make them fit each other, he cooks up an average and an arrear, which bear much the same relation to the actual facts as a Minerva romance to the strict details of history.

Having accomplished this feat to his own entire satisfaction, he proceeds to institute a comparison, equally trustworthy, between the expenditure of the Fund in its early days and its present expenditure. He first states that the cost of distributing the grants in 1856 was 507*l.* 10*s.* 5*d.*, which may be dismissed without further criticism as an egregious and discreditable misrepresentation. He then states that the total expense of the society for nearly twelve years from 1790 to 1801—for printing, advertising, and collecting, "as well as relieving,"—was only 559*l.* 17*s.* It would not suit him to place the comparison on the same ground on both sides, by comparing total expenditure with total expenditure; he must endeavour to make it appear that, while in former years the bulk of the expenditure was applied to general purposes, it is now applied to the relief of claimants alone. In doing this, he not only asserts what is shown on the face of the accounts to be absolutely untrue, but he contradicts himself. In the 'Case' it is stated in so many words that the "expense of the distribution" was 532*l.*, and Mr. Dickens declared at the general meeting that the expense of collection was "carefully excluded" from this sum. Now the fact is that the whole expenditure of the year, rent and expenses of chambers, secretary and collector, and incidental expenses of every kind, are included in this sum of 532*l.*; a fact which the "Reformers" have "carefully" suppressed. Let us now take the comparison between the twelve years in which the society expended only 559*l.* 17*s.* and the last year, 1857, in which the expenditure was even greater than in the previous year, selected by the *'Athenæum.'* This larger expenditure, of course, shows the present management at a still greater disadvantage, and exposes it to a still severer test. It appears, then, that the expenditure in 1857 amounted to 533*l.* 17*s.* 4*d.*, within 6*l.* of the whole expenditure of the twelve years from 1790 to 1801. Here is a case for the "Reformers." But let us pursue the comparison a little further, into a region in which the *'Athenæum'* has not led the way, and is not likely to follow. Let us compare the amount distributed. In the twelve years from which we derive this lesson of prudential economy, the total sum distributed for the relief of claimants on the fund was 1,680*l.* 8*s.*; and in the single year of 1857, the total sum so distributed was 1,780*l.*, exactly 100*l.* more. The *'Athenæum'* does not mention this fact, which disposes in a single line of the honesty and the logic of an article that occupies nearly three columns of small print. It is quite superfluous to ask any person of common sense which is the better management—that which at

a less cost, and consequently at a lower percentage, distributes in relief 1,780%, in one year, or that which at a greater cost, and consequently at a higher percentage, distributes only 1,680% in twelve years?

If the 'Athenæum' should return to this subject, we should be glad to hear what answer he has to give to these figures, and also to other points which he has sagaciously refrained from alluding to hitherto: such, for example, as the curious fact that it was Mr. Dilke who introduced the regulation for requiring testimonials and seven days' notice from applicants, which regulation Mr. Dilke condemns indignantly in the 'Case'; that the two instances of widows who are stated in the 'Case' to have been relieved by the committee after it had thrown off the council, took place thirty years ago,—that is to say, about twenty years before the council and the committee ceased to act together; and the fact—significant of the character of the whole movement—that the quotation extracted from the 'Quarterly Review,' and applied by the 'Reformers' to the present committee of the Literary Fund, was published nearly fifty years ago!

PARALLELS OR PLAGIARISMS?

To the Editor of the Literary Gazette.

SIR,—Will you permit me to call your attention to the following curiously parallel passages:—

The German First of September. A paper written by myself. In 'Fraser,' September, 1853.

"Stopping at Sitz Bad one summer, and becoming slightly bored there, I struck up an acquaintance with the government schoolmaster, or 'sprach-lehrer,' as he delighted to be called—a man of feeble body, and not much stronger mind, who in his mellow moments (which were not rare) was always," &c.

"Herr Tröster—broad in the shoulder, broader in the beam, radiant of visage, with every capillary of his handsome, honest face tingling and glowing with glorious Rautenthalm wine. . . . Or standing in the quaint old courtyard of his own hostelry, all mighty oaken beams, and wine-tuns, and narrow windows, like the illustrations of 'Der Lied von der Glocke!'"

"He introduced me to Herr Tröster, his great patron, as an echter Engländer, in whom there was no guile whatever, and gave me such a high character to the Teutonic Falstaff, that I got leave to fish in a little stream that trickled through the meadows close by; on condition, however, of paying for the trout I bagged—an agreement which was carried out satisfactorily to both parties, by sending the Haus Midechen up to the great hotel with the contents of my creel. . . . Indeed, so delighted was he with the bright silver 'gulden' I managed to extract from his stream. . . . that one fine day he invited me to join in a great shooting expedition, which he had organized, over a manor on which he had the right of sporting."

Sporting in Both Hemispheres. By J. D'Ewes, Esq. Chap. xviii. Routledge and Co. 1858.

"It was at this place (Boppal) that I formed an acquaintance with the sprach-lehrer, or government schoolmaster: a man of feeble body, and not very strong mind, but who in his mellow moments, which were not rare," &c.—Page 259.

"Herr Gogel—broad in the shoulder, broader in the beam, radiant of countenance, every dimple of his broad face glowing with the sunset tints of the choicest vintages from his cellars. It was a fine sight to see him standing in the ancient courtyard of his own inn, surrounded by oaken beams, wine tuns, and narrow windows, like the illustrations of 'Der Lied von der Glocke!'"

"I was introduced to him as an 'echter! (?) Engländer,' a good sort of Englishman, and soon procured permission from him to fish in a small stream that ran through some meadows behind his house, and contained both trout and grayling, on condition of my either sending the produce of my sport to the hotel, or paying for the same by weight, at the rate of half a gulden per pound, about three times more than they were worth. This was, however, generally, satisfactorily arranged by my sending the produce of my creel to the hotel, where I not only dined or supped, but washed down many a forellen Gebrauten with divers tasks of my host's Rautenthalm, and in his excellent society. Indeed, such excellent friends did we become, that he invited me to a great shooting-party that was about to be organized by himself and several of his friends, over the surrounding country, in fact, the opening of the chasse for that year; in other words—our First of September."

both the papers, I stop here. It certainly strikes me that Mr. D'Ewes is perfectly right in "reserving the right of translation," as he states he has done; for his powers of "translation" are above the common. I can only exclaim with Peter Quince, "Bottom! bless thee,—thou art translated!" and ask you to spare me a corner in your journal for these most remarkable coincidences.

Your obedient servant,
THE AUTHOR OF 'THE GERMAN FIRST OF SEPTEMBER.'

THE NEW MUSEUM AT THE INDIA HOUSE.

A VISIT to the East-India Company's Museum in Leadenhall Street has hitherto been a matter more of curiosity than instruction. Monstrous Buddhist idols, gorgeous Oriental dresses, Tippoo Sahib's organ in the shape of a tiger tearing to pieces an English soldier, standards and arms taken in the wars of Clive and Wellesley, were among the most conspicuous objects of attraction. Since the Great Exhibition of 1851 it has been represented to the Court of Directors that the Museum at the India House might be turned to better account for popular information. A collection of the natural productions and native manufactures of India, permanently exhibited in London, might not only interest the public, but draw attention to articles capable of being turned to use in British commerce, industry, and art. The carrying out of this design was intrusted to Dr. Forbes Royle, who had successfully superintended the Indian department of the Exhibition of 1851. After several years of arduous labour, the arrangements were almost completed by Dr. Royle; who did not live, however, to enjoy the credit due for this crowning work of a life devoted to the development of the productive resources of India. The collection has just been thrown open on Fridays, for the general inspection of the public, and at any time on application for purposes of study. Most of the objects of interest in the Indian Court of the Crystal Palace in Hyde Park are here replaced, while every effort has been made to extend and arrange the collection so as to make it of practical use to merchants and manufacturers, as well as to students of art and science.

The Model Room, the first apartment in the new museum, is filled with models and figures representing the various races, classes, and castes, with their dresses, dwellings, occupations, implements of industry, and everything connected either with public or domestic life. The individual figures are skilfully made, and some of the groups bring vividly to the eye scenes and customs which it would take long to describe in writing. There is a model, for instance, of a *kutcherrie* or court of justice, with the culprits, and the witnesses, and native pleaders, and policemen, and *peons* or messengers, the English *sahib* sitting on his raised and railed platform, with his papers before him, and his books of reference at his side. Another model explains at a glance "the lines" of the sepoy regiments, of which we have read so much in the history of the Bengal mutiny. Marriage processions, *nautches* or native dances, religious ceremonies, and the scenes of the great festivals, such as the *Churuk Poojah* and the Feast of Juggernaut, are strikingly represented. There are models, also, of all the industrial occupations, the natives being seen ploughing, cooking, washing, spinning, weaving, and in all their ordinary employments. Specimens of their tools, furniture, musical instruments, carriages, and other conveyances by land and water, are among the miscellaneous articles in the Model Room.

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Among the Manufactured Articles those fitted for introduction to Europe are chiefly of an ornamental kind. In all that depends on machinery, or on power suggested by science, native manufactures are inferior, as may be seen in the first group of specimens—papers from indigenous plants. But in every work affording scope for ingenuity, manual dexterity, and delicate touch, the productions are wonderful. The Dacca muslins have never been approached by any European manufactures. The cotton is cleaned, spun, and woven with apparently rude mechanism; but the result is a textile fabric worthy of Arachne's fabled skill. Some pieces of Dacca muslin, of the kind called *mulmul khas*, 10 yards in length and 1 in breadth, weigh less than 10 siccas, or 3½oz. avoirdupois, and have 1,900 threads in the warp. The price of each piece is 100 rupees, or at the rate of 1½ a yard. For this finest tissue of "woven air" there are innumerable varieties of cotton fabric, down to the rough calicoes in common use, the durability and strength of which still make them preferred to the products of the Manchester looms. The shawls of Cashmere and the brocades of Benares are not less remarkable. Of the species of brocade known as *kincob*, a texture of silk and gold, the best pieces sell for 300 rupees or 30½ a yard. They are used for ornamental scarfs and turbans. Some magnificent specimens of *kincob* are in the collection. Another department in which the Indians excel is embroidery work. The silk and muslin embroidered dresses are of a kind rarely seen in this country, and are wonderful products of ingenuity and patience. Other articles of costume exhibit the barbaric splendour of Oriental taste. The brilliant wings of beetles are sometimes introduced into the embroidery work, giving hues surpassing those of any artificial colours, though the natives are skilled in the art of dyeing.

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Catalogues of the fossil Fauna of this interesting district are given, from the works of MM. Pomet and Aymard, in an appendix, to which the text refers. The illustrations are excellently engraved on wood, on a reduced scale, and the maps of the "Chain of Pays, west of Clermont," and "Central France," are very conveniently folded, and placed in pockets of the covers. It is now really a tourist's book. It is portable, and, in this respect, as well as the style in which it is produced, it is a great improvement on the last edition. Now that intellectual tourists do not allow the geological features of a country to escape the eye, it is presumed that none will henceforward proceed to the interesting district of Auvergne without Mr. Scrope's valuable book as a companion.

Miscellaneous, Pamphlets, &c.

The Late Genoese Insurrection Defended. Parties in Italy: What are they? What have they done? By Joseph Mazzini. Holyoake and Co.
The Working Men's College: Third Report. 1858.
The Seaman's Pocket Annual for 1858. Compiled by John J. Mayo, Esq. O'Byrne Brothers.

The late Genoese Insurrection Defended is M. Mazzini's last manifesto to the deluded men who are so foolish as to accept him for their leader. He defends the insane attempt of a few desperadoes to overturn the only government in Italy which is founded upon constitutional principles, because Sardinia, taught by sad experience, refuses to constitute herself the armed propagandist of republicanism. M. Mazzini's one idea, his one political aspiration, is a republic of Italy; and since Sardinia prefers the good government and national freedom which is within her reach, to the pursuit of M. Mazzini's Italianized Utopia, Sardinia must be destroyed. And how? By insurrections and civil war. This, truly, is a strange mode of obtaining unity. "We seek to Italianize Piedmont," says the pamphlet; "to us the constitution is but a victory won by four millions and a half of our countrymen; a victory which enables them best to serve the national cause. For you [the Sardinians] Piedmont and the constitution are things *per se*, to be preserved, even at the expense of the national cause. You accept,—not from want of better aspirations, but from want of moral courage,—the fatal *dualism*, which, as I have already said, is the plague-spot of Italy." M. Mazzini is like the child who kicks, scratches, and bites, because the nurse cannot get it the moon to play with. There never did exist a kingdom of Italy. Rome in her palmy days never made common cause with Lombardy, any more than she did with Britain or Gaul. There were free states in Italy in the Middle Ages, but no such thing as Italian unity. The fact that such a thing as a kingdom or republic of Italy never did exist, is not indeed a conclusive proof against the possibility of its existence. By a series of fortunate circumstances, such a national feeling and capacity for self-government might be formed, as that a number of free Italian states might become conglomeraled into one. But it is by the gradual formation of such free states, and not by endless insurrections and civil wars, that such a consummation can be accomplished. It is only necessary to read M. Mazzini's pamphlet to be convinced that one idea can obtain such complete possession of a man's mind as utterly to drive out common sense.

The Council of the Working Men's College have just issued their *Third Report*. The College, having become possessed of some freehold property, has been incorporated under the Act 19 and 20 Vict. c. 47, and its affairs are managed by a council of teachers. Finding its old quarters too narrow for its increased action, it has removed to a larger house, with a garden at the back, which has been fitted up as a gymnasium. In last term 17 working carpenters, 23 cabinet-makers, upholsterers, pianoforte-makers, gilders, frame-makers, and decorators; 13 jewellers, 9

draughtsmen, 4 smiths, 25 printers, 13 boot-makers and tailors, and 15 *miscellaneous* (or, as an American would say, promiscuous) persons attended the classes. The total receipts for the year were 932*l.* 9*s.* We cordially congratulate the promoters of this truly useful undertaking on their success.

A very useful little work entitled *The Seaman's Pocket Annual for 1858*, has been compiled by Mr. Mayo, for the benefit of sailors, and published with the approval of the Board of Trade. It contains an almanack, plates of the different flags in use as national ensigns or for signals, an analysis of the Merchant Shipping Act, tables of foreign coinages, directions for saving life at sea, sanitary regulations, and much useful information of the same description. It is bound in a limp cover for the sake of portability, and ought to form part of every sailor's outfit.

ARTICLES AND COMMUNICATIONS.

THE LITERARY FUND.

"PRAY, sir," inquires Papillon, in utter amazement at one of his master's flights of imagination, "are you often visited with these waking dreams?" "Dreams!" demands the Liar, "what dost mean by dreams?" "Those ornamental reveries," rejoins the other; "those frolics of fancy, which, in the judgment of the vulgar, would be deemed absolute flams." This description accurately applies to an article which appeared in last week's 'Athenæum' on the Literary Fund, with this exception, that, unlike the "ornamental reveries" of Young Wilding, the "absolute flams" of our stolid contemporary are exceedingly dull. His ambition is equal to the most audacious attempts in this way, but unfortunately his genius is not capable of rendering them lively. He has a remarkable invention, but no imagination. He does not know how to set off a flam so as to make it attractive, or even to make it "lie like truth," and the consequence is that the fictions of which he is so industrious a producer, are at once transparent and dreary. His article of last week abounds, even more than is usual with him, in fabulous speculations (to call his misstatements by a gentler term than they deserve), and it is, in proportion, more than usually flat. He returns to the subject of 1802, upon which his previous assertions, as exhibited in the memorable 'Case,' were annihilated by a plain relation of authentic facts; and in his awkward efforts to maintain a false position, he flounders into new and still more extravagant complications of the original misrepresentation.

The "Reformers," he tells us in this article, "had stated, in the 'Case,' that in 1802 there were 394 annual subscribers." In order to prove that the Reformers were right, he endeavours to show, by an elaborate mystification of the accounts, that the imaginary 394 annual subscribers belonged to the year 1800—that is, the year beginning in April 1800, and ending in April 1801! If the one statement be true, the other must be untrue; and if there be counts to support it, there must exist definite evidence of the fact, one way or the other. We cannot suffer the 'Athenæum' to take the accounts of one year, and adapt them to the subscribers of another, or to assume at will, that the same subscribers belong to different years, as it may suit his purposes in the argument. In this very article, these 394 subscribers, who in reality never had any existence at all, are distinctly stated as representing the annual subscribers of no less than three different years: 1800, according to the account with which the writer tries to connect them; 1801, to which year he says, in another place, he thinks it "probable" the list applies; and 1802, as boldly asserted by the "Reformers."—"Which is the Duke of Wellington? Whichever you please, my little man; you pays your money, and may take your choice!"

And touching this same year 1802, the 'Athenæum' informs the reader, who has no means whatever of testing the veracity of the writer, that this list of subscribers being "published in 1802, is called the list for 1802." It is only proper the reader should be apprized that this is what Papillon calls an "absolute flam." The list is *not* called the list for 1802, nor is there a single word or sentence in connection with it to justify even the assumption that it is the list for 1802. It is published in a book, called 'The Claims of Literature,' written by Mr. Williams, and it is simply headed 'Subscribers.' That heading, and the explanations of the different classes of subscribers placed immediately under it, indicate, indeed, plainly enough that the list covers a period of several years; but beyond that general implication, there is no clue or guide whatever supplied by the book to the date or duration of time embraced by the list. The speculations of the 'Athenæum' are mere moonshine, and very dim moonshine, too. Driven to the last extremity in his experiment upon the account to reconcile it to his supposititious number of subscribers, and finding that, with all his dexterity, he cannot make them fit each other, he cooks up an average and an arrear, which bear much the same relation to the actual facts as a Minerva romance to the strict details of history.

Having accomplished this feat to his own entire satisfaction, he proceeds to institute a comparison, equally trustworthy, between the expenditure of the Fund in its early days and its present expenditure. He first states that the cost of *distributing* the grants in 1856 was 507*l.* 10*s.* 5*d.*, which may be dismissed without further criticism as an egregious and discreditable misrepresentation. He then states that the total expense of the society for nearly twelve years from 1790 to 1801—for printing, advertising, and collecting, "as well as relieving,"—was only 559*l.* 17*s.* It would not suit him to place the comparison on the same ground on both sides, by comparing total expenditure with total expenditure; he must endeavour to make it appear that, while in former years the bulk of the expenditure was applied to general purposes, it is now applied to the relief of claimants alone. In doing this, he not only asserts what is shown on the face of the accounts to be absolutely untrue, but he contradicts himself. In the 'Case' it is stated in so many words that the "expense of the distribution" was 532*l.*, and Mr. Dickens declared at the general meeting that the expense of collection was "carefully excluded" from this sum. Now the fact is that the whole expenditure of the year, rent and expenses of chambers, secretary and collector, and incidental expenses of every kind, are included in this sum of 532*l.*; a fact which the "Reformers" have "carefully" suppressed. Let us now take the comparison between the twelve years in which the society expended only 559*l.* 17*s.* and the last year, 1857, in which the expenditure was even greater than in the previous year, selected by the 'Athenæum.' This larger expenditure, of course, shows the present management at a still greater disadvantage, and exposes it to a still severer test. It appears, then, that the expenditure in 1857 amounted to 553*l.* 17*s.* 4*d.*, within 6*l.* of the whole expenditure of the twelve years from 1790 to 1801. Here is a case for the "Reformers." But let us pursue the comparison a little further, into a region in which the 'Athenæum' has not led the way, and is not likely to follow. Let us compare the amount distributed. In the twelve years from which we derive this lesson of prudential economy, the total sum distributed for the relief of claimants on the fund was 1,680*l.* 8*s.*; and in the single year of 1857, the total sum so distributed was 1,780*l.*, exactly 100*l.* more. The 'Athenæum' does not mention this fact, which disposes in a single line of the honesty and the logic of an article that occupies nearly three columns of small print. It is quite superfluous to ask any person of common sense which is the better management—that which at

a less cost, and consequently at a lower percentage, distributes in relief 1,780*l.*, in one year, or that which at a greater cost, and consequently at a higher percentage, distributes only 1,680*l.* in twelve years?

If the 'Athenæum' should return to this subject, we should be glad to hear what answer he has to give to these figures, and also to other points which he has sagaciously refrained from alluding to hitherto: such, for example, as the curious fact that it was Mr. Dilke who introduced the regulation for requiring testimonials and seven days' notice from applicants, which regulation Mr. Dilke condemns indignantly in the 'Case'; that the two instances of widows who are stated in the 'Case' to have been relieved by the committee after it had thrown off the council, took place thirty years ago,—that is to say, about twenty years before the council and the committee ceased to act together; and the fact—significant of the character of the whole movement—that the quotation extracted from the 'Quarterly Review,' and applied by the 'Reformers' to the present committee of the Literary Fund, was published nearly fifty years ago!

PARALLELS OR PLAGIARISMS?

To the Editor of the Literary Gazette.

SIR,—Will you permit me to call your attention to the following curiously parallel passages:—

The German First of September. A paper written by myself. In 'Fraser,' September, 1853.

"Stopping at Sitz Bad one summer, and becoming slightly bored there, I struck up an acquaintance with the government schoolmaster, or 'sprach-lehrer,' as he delighted to be called—a man of feeble body, and not much stronger mind, who in his mellow moments (which were not rare) was always," &c.

"Herr Tröster—broad in the shoulder, broader in the beam, radiant of visage, with every capillary of his handsome, honest face tingling and glowing with glorious Rautenthal wine. . . . Or standing in the quaint old courtyard of his own hostelry, all mighty oaken beams, and wincut, and narrow windows, like the illustrations of 'Der Lied von der Glocke'."

"He introduced me to Herr Tröster, his great patron, an echter Engländer, in whom there was no guile whatever, and gave me such a high character to the Teutonic Falstaff, that I got leave to fish in a little stream that trickled through the meadows close by; on condition, however, of paying for the trout I bagged—an agreement which was carried out satisfactorily by both parties, by sending the Haus Mädchen up to the great hotel with the contents of my creel. . . . Indeed, so delighted was he with the bright silver 'gulden' I managed to extract from his stream. . . . that one fine day he invited me to join in a great shooting expedition, which he had organized, over a manor on which he had the right of sporting."

Sporting in Both Hemispheres. By J. D'Ewes, Esq. Chap. xviii. Routledge and Co. 1858.

"It was at this place (Boppald) that I formed an acquaintance with the sprach-lehrer, or government schoolmaster; a man of feeble body and not very strong mind, but who in his mellow moments, which were not rare," &c.—Page 250.

"Herr Gogel—broad in the shoulder, broader in the beam, radiant of countenance, every dimple of his broad face glowing with the sunset tints of the choicest vintages from his cellars. It was a fine sight to see him standing in the ancient courtyard of his own inn, surrounded by oaken beams, wine funs, and narrow windows, like the illustration of 'Der Lied von der Glocke.'"

"I was introduced to him as an 'echter Engländner,' a good sort of Englishman, and soon procured permission from him to fish in a small stream that ran through some meadows behind his house, and contained both trout and grayling, on condition of my either sending the produce of my sport to the hotel, or paying for the same by weight, at the rate of half a gulden per pound, about three times more than they were worth. This was, however, generally, satisfactorily arranged by my sending the produce of my creel to the hotel, where I not only dined or supped, but washed down many a forelles *Gebirten* with divers flasks of my host's Rautenthal, and in his excellent society. Indeed, such excellent friends did we become, that he invited me to a great shooting-party that was about to be organized by himself and several of his friends, over the surrounding country, in fact, the opening of the chase for that year; in other words—our First of September."

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both the papers, I stop here. It certainly strikes me that Mr. D'Ewes is perfectly right in "reserving the right of translation," as he states he has done; for his powers of "translation" are above the common. I can only exclaim with Peter Quince, "Bottom! bless thee,—thou art translated!" and ask you to spare me a corner in your journal for these most remarkable coincidences.

Your obedient servant,

THE AUTHOR OF 'THE GERMAN FIRST OF SEPTEMBER.'

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westward. The metallurgic arts of India also afford interesting themes of historical inquiry. Their brasses and other alloys of the useful metals present some remarkable points, but the absence of tin has been a great drawback to their application of metal to domestic use.

Among the Miscellaneous Articles exhibited, the models of buildings and figures cut from the Sola pith, the *papier mâché* trays, the Bareilly boxes, the horn and ivory work, the enamels, and the specimens of native portrait-painting, will attract attention. But it is useless to mention particular articles, descriptions of which will appear in a catalogue which is now in course of preparation.

A Court of Sculpture and Antiquities forms a separate portion of the new museum, one of the rectangular spaces in the Leadenhall Street buildings having been fitted up for the purpose under the direction of Mr. Digby Wyatt. A beautiful model in marble of the cenotaph and surrounding screen in the Taj Mehal at Agra, forms the centre of the court, around which are grouped various monumental relics of the Mohammedan and Hindoo historical epochs. Some of the Nineveh sculptures and cuneiform inscriptions are also contained in the collection.

However interesting and instructive the India-House Museum may be in the present form, there is not space for the display of all the objects which it would be desirable to exhibit. The Natural History Museum is limited in extent, and of antiquities the existing collection is only a small nucleus. There seems little advantage in keeping up these departments, when the British Museum contains specimens of the same kind, with greater advantages of arrangement and preservation. If the Company's *raj* is to be merged in the imperial rule, the natural history and antiquarian specimens might well be united with similar objects from other portions of the world, especially if the national collections are to be separated from the library, as is proposed. It is otherwise with the raw products and manufactured articles, and specimens of the rocks and ores of India,—a collection of which, conveniently arranged for reference, must be of practical use to those most likely to visit it in the City.

GOSSIP OF THE WEEK.

THE members of the Garrick Club are to commemorate the anniversary of Shakspeare's birthday, the 23rd of April, by a dinner at the Albion Tavern, Mr. Charles Kean in the chair. How far Mr. Kean's mode of presenting Shakspeare on the stage renders him a fit president on such an occasion, is a matter upon which broad differences of opinion must be expected to exist; but upon all other grounds, we are very happy to recognize Mr. Kean's claims to occupy a position which we have no doubt he will discharge creditably. A strong feeling of dissatisfaction, we understand, prevails amongst many members of the Garrick, in consequence of the anniversary being held out of a club containing the noblest collection extant of dramatic portraits and other memorials of the stage; it is felt that the Club itself is the legitimate place for the celebration of the day on which Shakspeare was born and died.

The Theatre of the Royal Institution was crammed on Friday last to hear Mr. Buckle's lecture "On the Influence of Woman in the Progress of Civilization." It was, we believe, Mr. Buckle's first attempt at speaking in public, and was certainly a remarkable success. The lecture lasted an hour and a half, and was delivered without a note. There was not one, even a momentary, pause or hesitation; but it was a continued flow of brilliant thought and eloquent language. We understand that Mr. Buckle has since written the discourse, and that it will appear in the forthcoming number of 'Fraser's Magazine.'

A new historical work by Mr. Bancroft, on the American War of Independence, is in the press, and will shortly be published.

Amongst the valuable articles lost in the *Ada* is the journal kept by Mrs. Inglis during the memorable siege of Lucknow, in which her husband took so distinguished a part. She and her three children were passengers in the ill-fated vessel.

The Council of the Society of Arts have announced their intention of holding two *conversazioni*. The first will take place on the 24th of April, at the society's house, and a card of admission will be sent to each member. To the second, to be held at the South Kensington Museum, on the 8th of May, members will be entitled to take two friends of either sex.

The Archaeological Association will hold its annual meeting next August, at Salisbury. The Marquis of Ailesbury will preside.

We believe there is considerable difference of opinion among scientific men as to the existence of any data upon which the probable temperature of the seasons can be foretold. It is, nevertheless, stated that Lord Rosse confidently predicts that the summer of 1858 will be an unusually hot one, and that he advises the farmers to build sheds in the fields to shelter the cattle. There is one thing that we venture to prophesy—namely, that the farmers will not take his advice.

One of the most amusing hoaxes that we have heard of for some time, was that relating to Nebuchadnezzar and the 'Auctores Prapici,' to which the 'Morning Advertiser' fell a victim. But it has been surpassed by the Irishman who called himself M. Borromeo, and who sent reports of an 'Italian Conference,' whose *habitat* was in *aubibus*, to all the morning papers. Jupiter Tonans himself fell a victim to the trick of the Hibernian Hermes, inserted the mythical reports, and actually was induced by them to hurl the thunder-bolt of a leading article against the tyrannicides. The 'Daily News' was incredulous, and escaped. But the 'Morning Star' fell into the trap, and announces its intention of prosecuting the ingenious deceiver.

We understand that the Duke of Wellington has built at Kensington a magnificent riding-school, which he intends to bequeath to the nation. Here, on Saturday last, Mr. Rarey gave his first instructions to a class on the art of taming horses. Lord Palmerston and Earl Granville, who himself tried Mr. Rarey's method on a very vicious cob, his own property, both expressed their satisfaction in writing. The Duke of Wellington has since stated publicly that Mr. Rarey's art is entirely independent of the aid of drugs.

"A well-known literary man, holding a high situation in one of our universities," by his will directs his executrix to offer the whole of his private correspondence to the trustees of the British Museum; and if they decline the purchase, to sell the letters by public auction. This announcement has created considerable alarm among the late doctor's numerous correspondents. Now, Lord Eldon held that a letter was the property of the receiver, to read or to keep, but not to publish or make known. The writers of these letters may, therefore, surely either reclaim them or require that they shall be sealed up till Time shall have robbed them of their power to hurt.

We have received the following letter from a correspondent:—"Norwich, March 24. Sir,—In No. VII. of a series of papers on the 'Difficulties of Chaucer,' contributed by Mr. Thomas Boys to 'Notes and Queries,' I find the following comment on the word *Eclympasteire* in the *complet*,—

'Ther these Goddys Ieye and slepe,
Morpheus and Eclympasteire.'

'It will, perhaps, excite surprise if we suggest that by "*Eclympasteire*" we are to understand *Death*.' Mr. Boys then proceeds to derive '*Eclympasteire*' from the Greek *ἐκλμπάσω*. This suggestion will not 'surprise' any one who has read Chaucer in the last edition of his works

which has been published. In Chaucer's Poetical Works included in Mr. Bell's Annotated Edition of the English Poets, we find the following note, (vol. vi. p. 141):—"It is difficult to conceive where Chaucer could have found this name. Tyrwhitt places it in the list of words whose meaning he has not been able to discover. But we may venture to consider it a Greek word *ἐκλμπάσω*, (which cannot, however, be traced to classical authors,) formed from *ἐκλμπάω*, the transitive form of *ἐκλπω*, one of the meanings of which is to *cease*, to *die*. '*Eclympasteire*' would then mean *Death*,—he who causes man's life to cease. Mr. Boys quotes, we observe, from the corrupt text of Speght; it is, therefore, possible that he may not have seen the note I have just cited. He also calls the poem from which the *complet* is taken '*The Dreame of Chaucer*,' whereas it is more properly entitled '*The Boke of the Duchesse*.'—I am, &c.

"RALPH BLANCHEFLOWER."

The copyrights and stereotype plates of Mr. G. P. R. James's well-known novels, published in the Parlour Library, were submitted to auction, on Saturday last, by Messrs. Southgate and Barrett, of Fleet Street. They were put up in one lot, and comprised the following works:—1, *The Gipsy*; 2, *One in a Thousand*; 3, *The Robber*; 4, *Mary of Burgundy*; 5, *Morley Ernstein*; 6, *Castelnean*; 7, *Darnley*; 8, *The Smuggler*; 9, *The Brigand*; 10, *Philip Augustus*; 11, *Gowrie*; 12, *Henry Masterton*; 13, *John Marston Hall*; 14, *The Convict*; 15, *The King's Highway*; 16, *Charles Tyrrell*; 17, *Agincourt*; 18, *Forest Days*; 19, *Heidelberg*; 20, *Gentleman of the Old School*; 21, *Jacquerie*; 22, *The Huguenot*; 23, *Arrah Nell*; 24, *The Forgery*; 25, *The False Heir*; 26, *Arabella Stuart*; 27, *Henry of Guise*; 28, *Beauchamp*; 29, *Attila*; 30, *Russell*; 31, *The Stepmother*; 32, *Castle of Ehrenstein*; 33, *Eva St. Clair*; 34, *Delaware*; 35, *De l'Orme*; 36, *Rose d'Albret*; 37, *Richelieu*; 38, *Margaret Graham*; 39, *My Aunt Pontypool*; 40, *The Woodman*; 41, *Man-at-Arms*; 42, *Sir Theodore Broughton*; 43, *A Whim and its Consequences*. Together with the copyrights of two other works not yet printed in a cheap form—'*The Commissioner*;' or, *De Lunatico Inquirendo*;' and '*The Desultory Man*;' also '*The String of Pearls*.' The whole were knocked down to Messrs. Routledge and Co. for 2,075*l.*;—the stock to be taken at the cost of paper and print. The copyrights of two works by Mrs. Gore—'*The Birthright*;' and '*The Man of Fortune*;'—fetched 20*l.* On the previous day, the following literary property was disposed of by the same auctioneers:—'*The History of the United States of America*,' by Mary Howitt, post 8vo, 700 printed pages, unpublished; the stereotype plates and 12 wood-blocks, 100*l.* '*The Months: a Book for all Seasons*,' by G. F. Pardon, illustrated by W. McConnell; the stereotype plates, copyright, and 12 woodcuts, 20*l.* '*The History of Japan*,' in manuscript, with 59 wood-blocks, and the copyright, 40*l.* Bunyan's '*Pilgrim's Progress*,' 25 illustrations by George Cruikshank, unpublished, 47*l.* '*The Illustrated Book of French Songs*,' translated by John Oxenford, Esq.; the copyright and woodcuts, 19*l.* Dodd's '*Beauties of Shakspeare*,' the 50 wood-blocks from designs by Kenny Meadows and Bolton, engraved in the first style of art, unpublished, 43*l.* '*The Earth: its Physical Condition and most Remarkable Phenomena*,' by Higgins, fourth edition; the stereotype plates, copyright, and 6 illustrations on wood, 38*l.* '*The Israel of the Alps: a History of the Waldenses, their Persecutions and their Triumphs*,' from the French of the Rev. Dr. Alexis Muston; edited by Wm. Hazlitt; crown 8vo.; the copyright and woodcuts, 42*l.* '*Homer's Iliad and Odyssey*,' by Pope; a new edition, with notes, &c., by the Rev. Theodore A. Buckley, M.A.; 3 vols., crown 8vo.; the copyright and woodcuts (this edition contains the classical compositions of Flaxman, drawn by J. D. Scott, and engraved by

J. L. Williams; 65*l*. Johnson's 'Lives of the Poets,' completed by W. Hazlitt, with portraits, &c., by John Gilbert and other artists, 4 vols., crown 8vo.; the wood-blocks and copyright, 36*l*. 'Gaelic Gatherings; or, the Highlanders at Home, on the Heath, the River, and the Loch,' a series of interesting plates, from paintings by Melan, with descriptive letter-press by Logan; the lithographic stones, 24 subjects, two stones to each, and 168 copies of the letter-press only, 30*l*. 'British Animals,' by Harrison Weir, comprising 24 subjects, with descriptions and anecdotes; the whole of the blocks and the copyright, 145 guineas. 'Ned Myers; or, a Life before the Mast,' by J. Fenimore Cooper. The stereotype plates, 7*l*. 15*s*. 'Corinne,' by Madame de Staël; the stereotype plates, copyright, and steel plate, 18*l*. 10*s*. 'Romance and Reality,' by L. E. L.; the stereotype plates and steel plate, 14*l*. 'The Vicar of Wrexhill,' by Mrs. Trollope; the stereotype plates, copyright, and steel plate, 30*l*. 'Life of a Sailor,' by Captain Chamier; the stereotype plates, copyright and steel plate, 49*l*. These five volumes formed part of the Standard Novels, published by Bentley. Among the copyright shares we noted the following:—'Ellis's Exercises and Key,' one sixty-fourth, 16*l*. 'Mosheim's Ecclesiastical History,' by Soames, two forty-eighths, 16 guineas, and one sixty-fourth, 7*l*. 10*s*. 'Neuman and Baret's Spanish Dictionary,' 2 vols., stereotype, 20 copies in 500, and of the pearl stereotype edition, 40 in 1,000, 29 guineas. 'Nugent's French Dictionary,' square, and pearl stereotype, one ninety-sixth, 18*l*. 'Wanostrocht's Télémaque,' two forty-eighths, 11*l*.

The Historical Institute of France held its annual meeting in Paris a few days ago. Various papers on historical subjects or personages were read.

The Italian papers mention the death of Signor Guadagnoli, one of the most popular comic poets in Tuscany.

The King of Wurtemberg has created a new office in his country, viz., for the preservation of all public monuments, both artistical and archaeological. The officer is to bear the title of Conservator; and Professor Hassler, of Ulm, has been appointed to the post.

Our readers will be amused by a curious instance of the credulity of the Arab mind. A story has lately been invented by the members of the Greek Church at Nebk, a village near Damascus, to the effect that the Hindus, and their neighbours, the Russians, together with the French, have crossed the frontier (these are their limited notions of geography), entered England, fought their way to London, sacked the town, and murdered all its inhabitants, driving the Queen from her throne. She is stated to have fled with her ministers to Constantinople, and prostrated herself at the feet of the sultan to implore his assistance. He is said to have received her coldly, and finally to have driven her from his presence, alleging, as a reason, the assistance she had lately lent to some Protestants of Damascus. This story was fully credited by the Arabs and Turks. It is supposed to have been devised for the purpose of exciting a persecution against the Protestants of the village.

With that passion for centralization which possesses the government of France, it has established, under the name of "Committee of Historical Labours and of Learned Societies," a board in the Department of Public Instruction, for the purpose of deciding on the publication of unpublished historical documents; of examining and reporting on the proceedings of the various learned societies which are scattered over France; and, lastly, of distributing annually certain prizes, of small amount, to such societies as may produce the best paper on any given literary or scientific subject. Eminent literary, scientific, and official men have been appointed to the committee. It

will probably be useful by virtue of the principle that "union is strength," and by making the labours of the literary and scientific committees an object of state solicitude.

The Academy of Sciences of Paris has elected M. Clapeyron a member for the section of mechanics, in the room of the late M. Cauchy.

FINE ARTS.

THE NATIONAL INSTITUTION.

[Second Notice.]

AMONGST the landscapes, which, as usual, mostly preponderate in this exhibition, some of the most elaborate are those of Sidney R. Percy. *Our River* (45) represents a wide expanse of the Thames, with willow banks and water-lilies, under a sky massive with clouds, lit up on their lower edges with an ominous red tint,—a striking composition, but accompanied with those mannered peculiarities which belong to all this artist's works. *A Trout Stream* (354) and *Autumn* (510) are other examples. In the last the same heavy red tint pervades the whole picture, and gives a sort of factitious force of colour to the harvest-field, the stubble, the figures, waggon and horses, &c. A large picture by Arthur Gilbert, *A Golden Sunset in Wales* (60), is of a like solitary and dreamy character, where the resources of art multiply and exaggerate the simple truths of nature. The works of Boddington and Alfred W. Williams, which are very numerous, may be classed with the above, as specimens of the same style on a minor scale. The landscapes of G. A. Williams are more homely in subject, and have all those peculiarities which have been too often observed to need especial remark.

Three artists of the same family, Charles Pettitt, Edwin A. Pettitt, and George Pettitt, also display great similarity in the choice and treatment of subject. *Blea Tarn, and the Pikes of Langdale* (150) may be referred to as an example of brilliant mountain and lake scenery; and *Jedburgh Abbey* (490) of an inland scene, by Charles Pettitt, of which the drawing and painting are equally good.

The greatest advance, however, has been made by Mr. J. Peel. The high promise held out by this artist's former works has not been disappointed; and out of seven pictures there is not one which does not show great power. The first, *The Tweed* (26) is rather interesting from association than striking in subject; but the marvellous truth of delineation in every part carries conviction with it. *Near the Head of Loch Lomond* (133) is another very successful picture, throughout every portion of which a watchful eye and firm hand is to be traced. *Ben Foirlich* (279), *Ardles Farm* (436), and *The Head of Loch Lomond* (446), are examples of the same exact drawing and clear forcible painting. The unity and compactness of these scenes remedy a fault previously noticed, and give remarkable proofs of improved practice in the treatment of air and tone.

Mr. B. W. Leader's pictures are in many respects similar to the last. So striking a picture as that of *Benedi, in the Highlands* (93), is seldom to be met with, for elaborate drawing and force of delineation. The grey rock, cropping out with its canopy of turf, and the successive ridges of mountain, from the summit down to the bridge in the foreground, approach surprisingly near the truth of nature. How far the photograph has aided in the outlines of these elaborate pictures is not apparent, but may be suspected. Four other pictures by this artist (255, 304, 393, and 508) are scarcely inferior.

Mr. Hulme is another fast-rising artist. Decidedly his most charming picture is a *Ravine on the Conway* (129), where a difficult perspective of rocks and water has been managed with the most complete success. *An Old Bridge* (352), and *A Scene on the Llugwy* (441), are of the same class, and occasionally suffer from hardness

and over-sharpness of outline. *Ventnor* (397) is in a different tone and scale of colouring, where pink, blue, and green combine to make an almost Mediterranean scene. Mr. Hulme must have seen Ventnor under favourable skies.

A remarkable landscape by Henry Moore, called *A Coast Woodland, North Devon* (104), will arrest the eye, and probably excite admiration, or the reverse, according to the spectator's sympathy with the class of works that have sprung out of Pre-Raphaelite suggestions. It would be no great compliment to the P.R.B. to rank this picture of Mr. Moore with works of their acknowledged school. The scene is a copse, where an old oak has been cut down and barked, and the spoil is being laid away on the back of a pony by a grinning rustic. Away between the stems of the young wood is to be seen, on the right, the sea, and on the left, a scattered village. The number of branches and fern-leaves in this picture is quite alarming to estimate, remembering the mechanical labour they must have cost. Nor is the result quite successful. As may be expected after such a prolonged task, the figures have a heavy, dead, lively look; but something is here perhaps due to the nature of the subject. We cannot help thinking this effort of Mr. Moore a praiseworthy and promising attempt.

There is also a landscape of high pretensions, in point of art, very far removed, indeed, from anything else in the exhibition, by Mr. R. S. Lauder, R.S.A. It is meant to represent a deep glen of the river Anis, near *Subiaco* (480). The picture is very brown and dark—so dark, indeed, that it is difficult, in its present position, to penetrate the gloom of the ravine, and trace any outline amidst its solemn shades. In the foreground appears to be lying some drapery. How far this picture will bear the test of good light it is impossible to say. At present it excites the curiosity of the spectator.

Another remarkable work, the very antipodes of the last, for its clean-cut, hard, airless sharpness, its literal exactness to nature, and its thin execution, is a picture taken on the shore of the island of Sark, *Port du Moulin* (156), by Mr. John George Naish. The blue colour of the beach, from which the tide has receded, is striking; and a note informs us that it is due to the quantity of blue syenite, or soap-stone, there deposited. Not only blue syenite, however, but brown and black limestone are painted with extraordinary force and fidelity.

Mr. Hammersley has a pleasant scene on the Rhine, painted in festive colours, with that feeling of poetry rather than of stern laborious art that marks his works, *Tentersdorf* (372); and there is an *Entrance to the Grand Canal, Venice* (329), by William Telbin, on a large scale in the manner, *longo intervallo*, of Mr. Cooke.

A large number of works promise much when the style of the respective artists becomes more developed. Such are Mr. Meadows's works, those of George Travers, Charles R. Aston, W. Parrott, J. Surtees, Arthur Perrigal, Charles Leslie, Richard Pheney, Edward Hargett, W. Ashcroft, M. O. Lupton, and S. H. Bridell. The tendency to select small detached portions of a landscape—indeed the reduced size of almost all pictures—is a universal subject of remark, and complaints are made that painters lose sight of tone and keeping whilst they throw their energies exclusively and unservedly into a bank of flowers, the angle of a corn-field, or a small portion of a mountain stream with a few rocks and weeds. Higher qualities are not forgotten, however; they are only postponed, and the question is simply whether all the attributes that make up a good painting are to be studied *seriatim*, or together. The former practice is now evidently the fashion.

In a series of works by Robert E. Tindall, much attention has been given to accuracy in the foreground, which, however laudable, weakens the general effect; Mr. H. B. Gray on the other hand adopts a large open manner of treatment in his

Landscape (35), which is agreeable, though formal. Mr. T. Soper has some pleasing water-colour sketches, *Houses of Parliament* (181), *Richmond Park* (193), &c. Mr. J. Carter has studied a cornfield *On the Coast near Scarborough* (149), and Miss H. C. Hitchings, *The Willow Wood, near Shiplake, Oxfordshire* (138), with close attention and most laborious care.

A sketch of *Paul's Wharf* (228), by J. Sleep, is something very unusual in water-colours, as being a sketch in the heart of London, carefully drawn, but finished with a profusion of rich intermingling colours, broad effect, and general feeling of air and distance, which is highly artistic.

Mr. George P. Boyce gives very accurately two ancient churches at *Giornico* (216), "done" (which means, we presume, photographed) "on the spot." Mr. G. L. Hall has an enthusiastic fancy-sketch of *Locksley Hall* (220); and Mr. R. Pheneay an *Old Manor House* (226), which looks very like a bit of Cattermole borrowed and adopted.

Mr. H. W. Allfrey's sketch of a *Rent in the Cliff near Tenby* (287), is a fine and spirited study. Mr. B. Rudge has some pretty country scenes, promising in many ways; and Mrs. Oliver some delightful sketches.

Mr. John Bell's attempt to construct a classical Italian landscape on Lago Maggiore out of the usual stock materials, with a group of Luini and his pupils in the foreground (503), is as melancholy in its way as Mr. Dibdin's incomprehensible *Langdale Pikes* (414), which looks like a tremendous effort to paint Lake scenery enveloped in a dense fog. So far, perhaps, the work may be considered successful.

The sea views are principally those of Hayes, A. R. H.A.,—sparkling, but mannered; of J. Meadows, sen.,—careful, but tame; and of Thomas S. Robins,—lively, but without refinement of drawing or arrangement.

In interiors, besides the works of Mr. Provis (327 and 361), which are bright and careful as usual, there is an attempt by Mr. J. E. Lauder (350), remarkable for its success as to light and shade, but wanting in that peculiar handling which is appropriate to these subjects. Another aspirant in this line of art is Mr. J. T. Hixon (5 and 378).

Mr. Swarbrick has introduced a greater display of furniture and variety of subject into his architectural scenes (99, 267, 498, and 530), and the improvement is a marked one. A greater nicety of drawing, and more delicate feeling for harmony in colour, would add still further to the interest of these studies. A sketch in *Venice* (18), by J. G. Kendall, has something of the graceful colouring of Mr. Holland's pictures: we note also a study of the *Hôtel du Bourgethroule, Rouen* (53), by J. Henshall.

Mr. Horlor sends some good cattle-pieces. In flowers and fruit there is nothing which approaches to the success of Mrs. Rimer's *Roses* (113), and *Azaleas* (275); though Mr. Finlayson has a refreshing bit of colour in the *Grapes, &c.* (49), and Mr. W. E. Stuart a good group of *Fruit and Still Life* (558).

On the whole it must be acknowledged that this exhibition improves, and particularly in the interest attaching to a larger number of figure subjects. Still amongst 557 works the number below par cannot fail to be considerable.

A full-length statue of Turner is under the chisel of Mr. Bailey, and is expected to be completed for the next exhibition of the Royal Academy.

Our readers are probably aware that Mr. Herbert has been engaged for upwards of two years upon a cartoon of *Moses bringing down the Tables of the Law to the Israelites*, from which he intends to paint a fresco in the Palace of Westminster. It is now completed, and the Queen and Prince Albert have visited Mr. Herbert's studio at St. John's Wood, for the purpose of inspecting it.

A meeting held in the grand jury-room at Derby,

has resolved to erect a statue to the late Duke of Devonshire, and several noblemen and influential persons have been appointed as a committee to carry out the resolution.

Notwithstanding the implied promise on the part of the Government, that the new public offices should be built with some reference, at least, to the competitive designs to which premiums had been awarded, the Lords of the Treasury have determined to place the matter entirely in the hands of the Board of Works.

The Committee of the Architectural Museum have been empowered to offer the following prizes to Art-workmen:—"A prize of 10*l.* for the best specimen of hammered work in iron. Mr. Beresford Hope, M.P., a prize of five guineas for the best specimen of wood-carving, illustrative of some architectural composition of the thirteenth or fourteenth century. Mr. G. Godwin, a prize of five guineas for the best series of not less than four full-sized studies, drawn and shaded either in pencil, chalk, or single colour, from specimens in the Architectural Museum. And a prize of two guineas is offered for the best specimen of modelling in plaster from natural foliage conventionally arranged as a boss, finial, or running ornament for hollow mouldings. The conditions may be obtained at the Museum, Brompton.

On Saturday last the very choice and valuable collection of pictures by Italian, Spanish, Dutch, and English masters, the property of the late Richard Sanderson, Esq., of Belgrave Square, was consigned to the hammer by Messrs. Christie and Manson. Although there were only twenty-two pictures in the collection, they realized upwards of 2,650*l.* We give the leading specimens. Hogarth—*The Laughing Audience*, the original of the engraved picture, formerly in the possession of R. B. Sheridan, Esq., and G. Watson Taylor, Esq., 46 guineas. Paul Potter (1653)—*Two Horses in a Meadow*; one is standing by the side of a decayed willow-tree, and a spaniel barking at him; a groom, concealing a bridle behind him, is advancing towards the other; a *château* among trees, seen in the distance; formerly in Lord Ashburton's collection, cabinet size, 405 guineas. Murillo—*Murillo's Mistress*; head of a lady, with long dark hair, in a white dress, turning her head towards the spectator; formerly in Lucien Buonaparte's collection—54 guineas. Isaac Ostade—*Halt of a Post Waggon at a Country Inn*, 77 guineas. G. Douw—*The Poulterer*, from Robit's collection, 37 guineas. Ruysdael—A grand rocky *Landscape*, with rustic building on a height above a waterfall, and timber lying across the stream in the foreground; from Mr. Gray's collection, 345 guineas. Fra Bartolomeo—*The Virgin*, seated, with the Infant in her arms, to whom St. John is presenting the Cross and Scroll, landscape background, 58 guineas. Adrian Ostade—*A Village Fair*, with church and numerous figures in the background, from the collection of Baron Fagel, 110 guineas. Gainsborough—A grand woody *Landscape*, with a party of gypsies assembled round a fire, under the shade of the trees; an opening shows a beautiful distance illumined by the evening sun, 105 guineas. A. van Ostade—*Interior*, with two boors seated in conversation; one holds a pipe in his hand, and a glass of beer is placed on a stool before them; a woman holding a spindle is standing near a fireplace listening; cabinet size, 220 guineas. Guercino—*Semiramis receiving Intelligence of the Revolt of Babylon*, while seated at her Toilette, a female attendant behind her, from the collection of W. Haldimand, Esq., 200 guineas. Murillo—*The Assumption of the Virgin*; at her feet are a group of four infant angels bearing palms and flowers; the Virgin is in a white and blue drapery, her hands clasped on her breast; a magnificent *chef-d'œuvre*, from the Sebastiani collection; it was brought from Spain by M. le Brun, afterwards in the collection of E. Gray, Esq., 680 guineas.

A notice appeared in our columns last year of the opening of the graves of the Medici, in

their chapel in Florence. About the same time the tomb of the great poet, painter, and sculptor, Michael-Angelo, was also exposed to the gaze of the curious. He died at the age of ninety, in Rome, on the 17th February, 1564, and his body was with considerable difficulty smuggled into Tuscany, wrapped up in a bale of goods, and on the 10th of the following month he was buried in Florence. He was placed in his coffin dressed in a long vest of black damask, boots and spurs on his feet, and an old-fashioned hat on his head made of "long hairy black silk plush." About one hundred and sixty-eight years later, his coffin was opened, when all was found in order, and the body in excellent preservation. At the present time, however, matters are considerably changed; broken coffins and mouldering bones were found strewn around, and one which had already burst open lay among them, upon which was inscribed, in large black letters: "Ad tegenda ossa magni Michelis-Angeli Buonarroti hoc operimentum superimpositum fuit anno salutis MDCLVII." The lid was loose, not fastened down, and when raised disclosed the form, it is true, of the body, but nothing more. A mass of dust was all that was visible; some of the bones of the face were missing, and nothing remained whole but two or three leaves of a laurel crown, which had once been bound with a string round the head. This string was still visible, but the moment it was touched it crumbled into dust; small pieces of damask and leather still appeared, but the spurs were gone.

Four large pictures are now being exhibited in Berlin, in the Art-Union Rooms, in the avenue called Unter den Linden. They are by Professor Schirmer, the director of the Academy in Carlsruhe, and represent the story of the Good Samaritan, in four views, each taken at different times of the day. The first shows us the departure of the wanderer in early morning, bidding farewell to his friends. In the second view, we find the traveller, in the sultry heat of the day, having climbed up a lofty barren mountain, whilst dark threatening clouds fill up the vault of heaven, and the trees are bent down with the blast of the coming storm. As the wayfarer turns into a narrow path, the thieves attack him, fell him to the earth, and strip him of his possessions. In the third, the poor traveller, towards sunset, is found lying on the road-side, whilst the priest and the Levite are seen passing by on the other side. The Samaritan, on the contrary, pulls in his mule, and carefully binds the wounds of the unfortunate Jew. In the fourth picture, we see him, as night begins to fall, emerging from the valley, borne on the mule of the Good Samaritan, whilst the rising moon softly lights up the landscape. The four pictures are full of beautiful and poetic conceptions, and display a minute knowledge of atmosphere, and the anatomy of trees, which it is hardly necessary to say are worthy of the well-known reputation of the celebrated old Düsseldorf painter. The pictures have been purchased by the Grand Duke of Baden, who is both a liberal and discriminating patron of art. They are intended for the *Kunstshalle* at Carlsruhe.

The sale by auction of the picture gallery of the well-known Dr. Véron, of Paris, took place in that city a few days ago. Several paintings of Decamps figured in it; the principal was *Joseph Sold by his Brethren*, and it fetched 1,320*l.*—less than it cost. *The Reader of Meissonnier* went for 328*l.*, and *The Audience*, by the same, for 320*l.* A portrait of the *Duchess of Marlborough*, by Reynolds, went for 324*l.*, and several Bonningtons obtained high prices; one as much as 54*l.* *A View in Venice*, by Tiepolo, only obtained 140*l.*,—half of what it cost at the sale of the Aguado gallery.

On the 30th of March the Academy of Fine Arts in Berlin will hold a funeral fête in honour of the late sculptor Rauch. Professor Rauch has left in his will the sum of thirty thousand thalers, to be divided amongst different benevolent in-

stitutions in his native town of Arolsen, in the principedom of Waldeck.

The men of Liege are about to erect a monument to Franz Stevens, the Belgian poet, who died at the early age of twenty-seven.

The burial of Herr Burgschmiet, the celebrated bronze-founder of Nuremberg, who died suddenly a few days ago, took place on the 10th of March. The coffin, literally loaded with laurel garlands, was carried by eight of his private friends, and surrounded by twelve torch-bearers; then came the relations of the deceased, followed by a deputation from the magistrates and from the clergy, and by the two burgomasters of Nuremberg; next a procession of all the artists of the town, the members of the Albert Durer Society, the Art Union, the Society of Builders, the Trades' Union, and many other corporate bodies. Numbers of the government officials and officers of the line and militia, besides the professors and teachers of the Schools of Design, the Gymnasiums, and Polytechnic Institution, attended. The procession, which was one of the largest ever beheld in Nuremberg, was closed by civilians of all ranks and classes. After the religious ceremonies were performed at the grave, the Choral Society and the "Singerverein" members sang a hymn, and the second director of the Albert Durer Society pronounced an eulogistic speech.

At Messrs. Foster's gallery in Pall Mall, on Tuesday, the 19th inst., the following pictures by English artists were disposed of at the prices annexed:—*The Royal Nursery*, a sketch by Sir David Wilkie, R.A., 11½ inches by 8½, 34 guineas. *A Sea Piece*, with ruins of an ancient castle, by Clarkson Stanfield, R.A., 1852, 35 inches by 24, 60 guineas. *The Fortune-Hunter*, by R. Redgrave, R.A., 90 guineas. *The Sunbeam*, by J. Philip, 42 inches by 32, 97 guineas. *The Mountain Stream*, rustic children, by G. B. O'Neill, 13 inches by 10, 30 guineas. *Dressed for the Ball*, by A. Elmore, A.R.A., 1856, 44 guineas. *Choice Fruit*, paroquette and attendant, by G. Lance, 11 inches by 11, 45 guineas. *Taking a Portrait*, by W. Helmsley, 1857, 22 inches by 18, 57 guineas. *The Arrest of John Brown, of Ashford*, a Lollard, and one of the first martyrs in early part of Henry VIII.'s reign, 24 inches by 17, 51 guineas. *Contemplation*, by W. P. Frith, R.A., oval, 13 inches by 11, 45 guineas. *Burns and his Highland Mary*, by T. Fued, 19 inches by 16, 100 guineas. *The Sisters*, by A. Solomon, engraved, 16 inches by 12, 67 guineas. *The Woodman's Home*, by P. Nasmyth, 15 inches by 11, 48 guineas. *Ravenswood and Lucy Ashton*, scene from the 'Bride of Lammermoor,' by W. P. Frith, R.A., and T. Creswick, R.A., 15 inches by 11, 275 guineas. *Scene from the 'Vicar of Wakefield'*, by W. P. Frith, R.A.—"Then she would bid the girls hold up their heads, who, to conceal nothing, were certainly very handsome"—13 inches by 9, 161 guineas. *Charles II. and Nell Gwynne*, a scene at Hampton Court, by E. M. Ward, R.A., 14 inches by 12, 116 guineas. *Milk Cows—Morning*, by T. S. Cooper, A.R.A., 11 inches by 8, 32 guineas. *The Recruit*, by F. Goodall, A.R.A., 10 inches by 6, 64 guineas.

The 'Court Circular' announces that the nude Achilles, put up in Hyde Park by the ladies of England in honour of the Duke of Wellington, is soon to be removed.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

THE works of John Sebastian Bach have yet to become popularly known and appreciated in this country; and the performance at St. Martin's Hall on Wednesday night, by the Bach Society, under the direction of Professor Sterndale Bennett, will go far to extend the study of the great contemporary of Handel. The *Passion-Music*, illustrating the narration according to St. Matthew's Gospel, was first performed at St. Thomas's, Leipzig, on Good Friday, 1729. Three other com-

positions of a similar dramatic kind were written for the story of the Passion as told by the other Evangelists; but that of St. Matthew is the most remarkable of Bach's works. The sustained grandeur of harmony in the choruses, and the noble melody of the old chorales, which are skillfully introduced, command admiration, although the broken dramatic form of composition is more foreign to English ideas than the more regular structure of a formal oratorio. The style of Bach's music is so different from that of Handel's, Hayden's, or Mozart's, to which the singers were accustomed, that they seemed hardly to feel at home in their parts; but the performance was, nevertheless, a great treat. The audience included the Prince Consort, the Earl of Westmoreland, President of the Royal Academy of Music, and other distinguished musical personages. The chief solo singers were Madame Weiss, Mrs. Street, Miss Dolby, Mr. Benson, Mr. Weiss, and Mr. Winn. After this successful commencement we trust that Bach's larger works will occasionally be heard at the concerts of sacred music, as many of his fugues and other minor compositions are already familiar in our cathedrals and churches.

St. James's Music Hall was formally inaugurated on Thursday evening by a concert of sacred music, given in aid of the funds of the Middlesex Hospital. The programme included Mendelssohn's *Lobgesang*, Handel's *Coronation Anthem*, Spohr's cantata *'Lord, Thou art Great'*, and various pieces from Mozart, Cherubini, and other masters. The chorus, numbering about three hundred, and the efficient orchestra, were under the direction of M. Benedict. In the decoration, lighting, ventilation, and general arrangements of the new music-hall there is much to admire; but what is of more consequence, its acoustic properties are very good, as the performance of Thursday night proved. A concert of secular music is to be given to-night, also for the benefit of the Middlesex Hospital.

The Sacred Harmonic Society has now been established for a quarter of a century, the twenty-fifth annual report having just been published. Few institutions have, in so short a period, asserted so high a position in public esteem. The cultivation of classical sacred music had been previously confined to very limited circles, and the success of the society was problematical. For some years the operations were conducted on a humble scale, but lately the progress has been rapid, and the society has profited by the increased musical taste which it had itself largely contributed to form and diffuse. The Handel Festival of last year was an attestation of what has been effected by the Society, and that was only preliminary to the greater Commemorative Festival of 1859. The regular members and subscribers at Christmas, 1857, were 750, being 40 in advance of the number at the end of the previous year; and the receipts from subscriptions were 1,352l. 8s., being an increase in the year of 214l. 4s. From the surplus fund of the Handel Festival there was a sum of 1,000l. paid to the Society; the proceeds of concerts at Exeter Hall were 3,665l. 3s.; and from dividends and other sources, 43l. 8s. 6d.; making the total revenue for the year, 6,060l. 19s. 6d. The expenses of concerts at Exeter Hall were 4,128l. 4s., and general expenses, 1,085l. 17s. 10d. Of the works performed at the concerts, the only one given for the first time was Rossini's *Stabat Mater*, but several others had not been before frequently heard in London, such as Haydn's *Third Mass*, Mendelssohn's *Lauda Sion*, and his oratorio of *Athalie*. Spohr's *Last Judgment* and Costa's *Eli* have been the only oratorios performed, besides the standard works of Handel, Haydn, and Mendelssohn. The thanks of the society having been voted to Mr. Costa for his great and successful labours in connection with the Handel Festival, the director of the concerts, in his reply, employed language which justly expresses the position and services of the society:—"For my part, I have never been so highly grati-

fied and proud as I was in marshalling such an assemblage of talent, and I believe the musical world has never had so large a battle fought with such good results before; and if the father of all the masters could have been present, and heard his own music performed in the style that it was, I am confident he would have shed many tears of delight, for in his time there was not the Sacred Harmonic Society in existence to do honour to his immortal genius."

The sum of nearly 200l., principally in small contributions, has been collected for raising a granite monument in the Marylebone cemetery, at Finchley, to the memory of the late Sir Henry Bishop.

A subscription of 50l. has been voted by the committee of the Sacred Harmonic Society to the Handel statue fund. The Queen has subscribed 50l., and the Prince Consort 25l.; but the whole sum as yet contributed in this country is less than 200l. The model of the statue, which has been selected by the committee at Halle, and approved by the King of Prussia, is the work of Heidel, of Berlin. A mask of the face of Handel, from Roubillac's statue, belonging to the Sacred Harmonic Society, has been of important service to the sculptor, as that statue was executed when Handel was in full vigour and in the prime of his days.

The 15th of May is announced as the day when the new Italian Opera House in Covent Garden will be opened. Rapid progress is being made, but there is still much to be done, and the Lyceum, we believe, has been engaged, in case the internal arrangements should be incomplete when the season commences.

'Patchwork':—This entertainment will be given by Mr. and Mrs. Howard Paul, at the Adelphi Theatre during Passion-week.

The opera of M. Halévy, *La Magicienne*, produced at the Théâtre du Grand Opéra at Paris, of which we made some mention in our last, has obtained very great success. The libretto, which is by M. de Saint-Georges, is based on a legend of the time of the Crusades, and is about a wicked witch named *Melusine*, winning by her infernal art, from a charming young creature, *Blanche de Poitou*, her lover, *Réné*,—though at the very time she (the witch) is united in the bonds of matrimony, or something resembling them, to one *Stello*, a necromancer; and about her subsequently repenting of her wickedness, and, after an awful conflict with the demons, to whom she has sold herself, retiring to a convent, after arranging a marriage between *Blanche* and *Réné*. Opinions, we hear, differ greatly in Paris as to the merit of the music which M. Halévy has wedded to the "poem" of his collaborateur; some persons holding that it is full of grace and beauty; others, that it is cold and scientific; or, to adopt a Parisian expression, "academic." Our letters, remarking very justly that it is not from a first hearing, nor even from a second or third, that a great musical work can be properly judged, incline rather to the latter opinion. Entering into detail, they say that in the first act there is a charming air by *Blanche*; a prayer of a somewhat lofty character; a very pretty ballad, also by *Blanche*; a martial song, which is very effective; a chorus of the *Daughters of Night*; and a song addressed to *Réné* by the witch, which is greatly admired. In the second act they notice a recital made by the witch, remarkable for power and energy; and an admirable duo. The third act comprises another duo and a chorus, interrupted by thunder and a tempest, which possesses not a little savage grandeur. A chorus and a trio are noted in the fourth act; and in the last are a duo, a trio, and a grand fantastic scene of demons. The principal performers are M^{me}. Borgho-Mami, M^{me}. Lauters, and Messrs. Gueymard and Bonnehé. The orchestra acquits itself excellently well, and the choruses have been carefully drilled. The dresses and decorations are so admirable as to occasion

surprise even at the Grand Opera. As we said in our last, there is a ballet representing a game of chess; but it is rather long and dull.

Our Paris letters specify, amongst a long string of Lenten concerts, two given by Madame Szarvady, whose maiden name of Wilhelmina Clauss is familiar to the musical circles. This lady, one of the most distinguished pianists of the day, has added greatly to her reputation by three concerts which she has lately given in that city, and in the course of which she executed *morceaux* from Mendelssohn, Schumann, Pergolesi, Beethoven, Handel, and other great masters. Few other *artistes* would be able to charm, as she did, large audiences for an entire evening by music of such a lofty character; but, to be sure, few possess the extraordinary power over the piano of which she can boast. Madame Szarvady will most likely appear in London before the end of the season.

A comic opera, by Prince Poniatowski, called *Don Desiderio*, originally produced at Rome in 1842, has, within the last few days, been represented at the Italian Theatre at Paris, and though not at all remarkable for genius, obtained a fair share of success.

In the beginning of June, a jubileum-festival is to be held in the Conservatorium of Prague; not only all the scholars of the Conservatorium are to be invited to assist at this musical festival, but also all the honorary members and other celebrities. It is expected that deputations will attend from the Conservatoria of Paris, Brussels, Vienna, Milan, Munich, and Leipsic. The festival will last for three or four days.

LEARNED SOCIETIES.

GEOGRAPHICAL.—*March 22nd.*—Sir Roderick I. Murchison, President, in the chair. *Elections.*—Henry G. Bohn, L. P. Casella, Stephen Case, Cyril C. Graham, the Rev. Thomas Marriot, Robert Mc Kerrell, James Ewing Mathieson, John Henning Nix, and Thomas George Staveley, were elected Fellows. The papers read were:—1. "Contributions to the knowledge of New Guinea." By Dr. Solomon Müller. (Communicated by Mr. John Yeats, F.R.G.S.) This paper was illustrated by an enlarged map of the south-western part of the island, which was the portion more especially under notice. An elevated range of hills, of a rocky character, nearly 2,000 feet high, and covered with trees, ran along the shore from the north-west; and farther in the interior a mountain range, apparently of considerable height, and capped with snow, was observed running east and west across the island. In consequence of the clouds which constantly collected about them, the tops of the mountains were rarely visible. The approach to the shore is difficult, but there existed a large, and, for a short distance, navigable river—the Princess Maryanne, in one of the many tributaries of which the water was fresh. This circumstance was an important one, inasmuch as an accessible supply of fresh water to ships navigating this island would thus be afforded. An account, highly unfavourable as regards the inhabitants (who were negroes, and described as very inhospitable, and averse to barter), as well as of the productions of the island was given. 2. "Latest Communications on Australian Explorations." By Captain Freeling, R.E., Surveyor-General, and Mr. Stephen Hack. (Communicated by the Colonial Office.) These accounts were descriptive of the recent explorations in that country, and of the search for the reported Lake Torrens. Accounts varied considerably, but the explorations were prosecuted at different periods of the year. The result was, that the large seeming lake in wet weather was, in summer, nothing more than a salt marsh. The mirage produced singularly deceptive appearance,—it not only caused the lake to seem larger than it really was, but the shrubs and hills were magnified through it into trees and mountains. Colonel Gawler said that he had received

from Adelaide summaries of the geographical proceedings of the year 1857, which appeared so replete with importance in regard to the evidence of good and well-watered country to the westward of Lake Torrens, and towards the probability that a practicable route would be found in that line from the south-eastern provinces to the north-western coast, that he had abridged and thrown into print extracts from them. He thought that if Mr. Groyder and Captain Freeling had changed places in regard to time, they would also have changed impressions in regard to the land actually traversed and the water actually tasted. Seasons made an immense difference in the appearance of the country in the latitude of South Australia. These gentlemen, however, were not upon the all-important line of country. That line he (Colonel Gawler) had been convinced, by atmospheric appearance, was to be found to the northward of Eyria (the Port Lincoln Peninsula). From that direction a hot wind never was known, as Mr. Eyre in his *Journeys* (vol. i. 343, ii. 140 and 143), the Port Lincoln settlers, Colonel Gawler, and himself, had carefully observed in remarkable contrast to winds from the eastward of Lake Torrens. The recent expeditions of Mr. Stephen Hack, and of Messrs. Swinden, Thompson, and Campbell, afford the first stage in strong confirmation of the correctness of these anticipations. Mr. Hack was informed by the natives that there are large herds of wild cattle to the north of Lake Gairdner—a fact which indicates the favourable character of the country in that direction; and he himself, when he was able to obtain extensive views to the northward (after passing Lake Gairdner), saw what he describes as "no end of good country." Mr. Hack also believes, from his own observations and native information, that a practicable route into the very heart of the continent may be found between Lake Gairdner and Lake Torrens. The other party of practical bushmen were so satisfied with their discoveries to the westward of Lake Torrens, that they immediately took leases of occupation from the Government. The Government and the South Australian public, on their parts, were so satisfied of the value of the information that a large expedition was forthwith fitted out under Mr. Babbage, with eighteen months' provisions, and the means of carrying fresh water, and distilling salt water, to make a grand assault upon the mysterious interior, starting from Swinden's discoveries. The Chairman, after some observations on the paper at variance with the views of Colonel Gawler, stated that at the next meeting, on the 12th of April ensuing, a paper, by Dr. H. Rink, of Greenland, on the subject of Dr. Kane's supposed discovery of a Polar sea, would be read; and another by Mr. Wm. Lockhart, F.R.G.S., on China. Sir Roderick then drew the attention of the Society to the 27th Vol. of the 'Journal,' which had that day been published, with fourteen maps, besides other illustrations; and having congratulated the Fellows upon the value of this excellent Journal, finally announced that his two next *soirées*, in Belgrave Square, would be held, one on the 31st inst., and the other on the 21st April, observing that he had invited all the Fellows, but if any should by accident not have received invitations, they were to understand that they were invited nevertheless.

ZOOLOGICAL.—*March 23rd.*—Dr. Gray, F.R.S., V.P., in the chair. Mr. Gould exhibited and described a new species of Toucan, which he had recently received from Professor Jameson, of Quito. He remarked that it belonged to that division of the group to which he had applied the generic term of *Andigena*, and that it was most intimately allied to the *A. nigrirostris*, but differed from that species in the bill being shorter, broader, and much more robust, and coloured with obscure brownish red at the base of the upper mandible. For this new species he proposed the name of *Andigena spilorhyncha*. Mr. Sclater exhibited

some specimens of *Urubitinga uncinata*, from Mr. Gurney's collection, and pointed out the extraordinary variation in the form of the upper mandible of this bird,—in some specimens the lateral margins being festooned and projecting much over the edge of the lower mandible, and in others the commissure being nearly or quite straight. The Secretary read a paper on "Siphonaria," by Sylvanus Hanley, in which were described three new species, under the following names, *S. Blainvillei*, *S. Nuttalli*, and *S. Belcheri*. Dr. Gray read a paper "On a new genus of *Boide*, from Old Calabar; with a list of West African reptiles." Mr. Logan having kindly sent to Dr. Gray for examination a number of snakes and other reptiles, which had been collected by the missionaries in Old Calabar; he observed among several interesting species one which seemed to be the type of a new genus of the family *Boide*, which he had great pleasure in laying before the society. He proposed to name the genus *Calabaria*, and characterized the type as *Calabaria fusca*.

CHEMICAL.—*March 18th.*—Dr. Lyon Playfair, C.B., President, in the chair. Messrs. W. H. Hutton, A. Goaler, E. Dalziel, T. W. Hills, D. Oldfield, and J. P. Bidlake, were elected Fellows. Messrs. Perkin and Duppa read a paper "On the Action of Bromine on Acetic Acid." The authors prepared bromacetic and dibromacetic acids by reacting with bromine on crystallizable acetic acid, in sealed tubes, heated to 150 deg. C. Several salts and ethers of both acids were prepared. Bromacetic acid was found to react in a most interesting manner with ammonia, yielding, as a result, glycocine or sugar of gelatine. The reaction consisted in a substitution of auridogen for bromine. Mr. Henry Hancock read a paper "On the Urari Poison obtained from Arrows." Some poisoned arrows, brought over by Sir R. Schomburgk from Guiana, were scraped, and the scrapings digested with chloroform. By evaporating off the chloroform a crystalline highly-poisonous deposit was obtained.

GEOLOGICAL.—*March 10th.*—Professor Phillips, President, in the chair. Alfred Williams, Esq., C.E., Newport, was elected a Fellow; M. Am. Escher von der Linth, of Zurich, and M. E. E. Deslongchamps, of Caen, were elected Foreign Members. The following communications were read:—1. "On the Geology of the Gold-fields of Victoria." By A. R. C. Selwyn, Esq., Geologist to the Colony of Victoria. (In a letter to Professor Ramsay, F.G.S.) The author stated, that in the Colony of Victoria, from a line east of Melbourne to some distance west of that place, he has traced a succession of fossiliferous palaeozoic rocks, commencing with schists, much cleaved and contorted, and containing *Lingula* and *Graptolites*, passing through a series of schists and sandstones with *Trilobites* and many other fossils characteristic of the lower, middle, and upper Silurian series of Britain, and terminating with Devonian and Carboniferous rocks; and he remarks that the younger or Oolitic (?) coal-bearing beds on the west rest unconformably on the palaeozoic rocks. A list of about sixty genera of Silurian fossils, including many new species, was appended. The gold-bearing quartz-veins of the Silurian rocks appear to the author to be dependent more on their proximity to some granitic or other plutonic mass than on the age of the rocks in which they occur. Quartz-veins do not appear to traverse the Oolitic (?) coal-rocks, which are of newer date than the granites of this district. The author's observations refer chiefly to Bendigo, Ballaarat, and Steiglitz gold-fields, where *Graptolites* and *Lingula* occur in the schists, which are traversed by the gold-quartz veins. The granites here do not contain gold; and, though they have altered the slate-rocks at the line of junction, yet they do not appear to have affected their general strike or

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dip, but appear to have themselves partaken of the movements which have placed these Silurian rocks on their present highly inclined and contorted positions, and given them their very uniform meridional direction. Mr. Selwyn recognizes gold-bearing drifts of three distinct ages. The lowest contains large quantities of wood, seed-vessels, &c., at various depths, to 280 feet, and is associated with clays, sands, and pebbles. These are overlaid by sheets of lava. A more recent auriferous drift, containing also bones of both extinct and living marsupial quadrupeds, overlies these lavas in some places; in others it rests on the older drifts; and at Tower Hill, near Warramboul, marine or estuary beds of probably the same age, are overlaid by volcanic ashes. A third and still more recent gold-drift is found on the surface, overlying indifferently any of the older deposits. The gold is found at the base of these drifts or gravels, which are the result of the immediate waste, by atmospheric and fluvial action, of older masses, and have not been far transported. The largest amount of gold is found in the drifts when near the Silurian schists. The author believes that there is every probability of gold-deposits existing under the greater portion of the lava-plains of the region to the westward. Mr. Selwyn also described a cave which he had discovered in the basaltic lava of Mount Macedon, a few miles north of Melbourne, and in which he had found bones of many living species of mammals, including the "devil" of Tasmania, and the Dingo, or native dog. The cave is about 1,000 feet above the sea-level, and thirty miles inland. 2. "Notes on the Gold-fields of Ballaarat, Victoria." By Mr. John Phillips, C.E., Surveyor in the Government Service of Victoria. (Communicated by Sir R. I. Murchison, V.P.G.S.) All the Victorian gold-fields are near granite, and some are on it. The granite at Ballaarat is fine and even-grained, and the schists lie against it. Between these rocks the junction is abrupt; there is little or no gneiss, and no porphyritic or other veins were observed. The schists are greenish, and are occasionally chloritic, micaceous, aluminous, and siliceous, and are traversed by quartz-veins, from less than an inch to one foot in thickness. The schists in the upper portion are more quartzose and contain oxides of iron; lower down they are more aluminous and contain pyrites. Their strike is rather uniform; nearly coinciding with the true meridian, while the cleavage and quartz-veins are not regular in strike. The workings at Ballaarat have exhibited a section of 300 feet in thickness, consisting of gravels, sands, clays, and trap-rocks. The oldest drift or gravel—a beach-like conglomerate—is found not in the deep section, but on the surface of the schist-country. It is regarded as of marine origin by the author, and is composed of quartz, and contains gold at its base. Another drift has been deposited in gullies cut through the oldest drift and deep into the schists. This also is auriferous, and is covered by an ancient humus, which, in the deep section, is found to contain stems of trees, and to be covered over by a trap-rock inclosing upright trees. This fossil wood is usually but little altered in its texture and ligneous qualities; its colour is changed from that of red birch to cocoa or lignum-vitæ. But some of it has passed into jet; and both the charred and the uncharred woods have much bright pyrites in them. The flora of this old land-surface resembles that of the present day. This first trap is covered by green and brownish clay and sand, which are succeeded by another trap, having a line of charred vegetable matter at its base, and also having a similar covering of clay and sand. These clay and sand deposits are regarded by the author as being of lacustrine origin; the volcanic rocks having dammed up the old river-courses, that formed the gully-drifts, and caused the drainage water of the region to be accumulated in lakes. The next deposit is a coarse ochreous quartzose drift, considered by the author to be the effect of some

sweeping deluge; and this is also overlaid by a third bed of trap-rock, with the charred remains of a forest intervening. This trap is covered by a mottled clay of pure quality, also regarded as lacustrine. A fourth trap succeeds, covered by a superficial quartzose drift (of diluvial origin, according to the author), and lying on one side of the schistose hills, which are clearly denuded on the other. In the basin of the Yarrowee, which is covered chiefly with this gravel, the author traces the run of the "gold-leads," or old gullies, which have only an approximative resemblance to the ramifications of the present river. These ancient gullies or leads had a very uniform fall, which, from the smallness of the contents of the gullies must have been as rapid as 16 in 1,000, while the fall of the present Yarrowee has only a fall of 8 in 1,000. Mr. Phillips urges that all the basin between the gold-leads may be wrought by the aid of the water-power of the Yarrowee, a thousand horse-power being now allowed to run waste, which, by means of reservoirs, could be made available. The author adds that silver nuggets have been reported, on good authority, to have been found within thirty miles of Ballaarat. He further observes that, whilst surveying the district, oscillations of the spirit-bubble indicated a rocking of the earth; and that the country in places sounds hollow, like a wooden bridge, horses even noticing it in passing. 3. "Notes on the Gold-Diggings at Creswick Creek and Ballaarat." By Mr. W. Redaway. (Communicated by Sir R. I. Murchison, V.P.G.S.) Mr. Redaway noticed first the "bluestone," or concretionary basaltic lava, at Creswick Creek, which composes also the rough-bouldered surface of the country to a great extent. In the plains formed of this volcanic rock, small lakes or water-holes, from 3 to 12 feet in diameter, are in some places frequent. At Creswick Creek the different diggings perforate varying thicknesses of bluestone, from 17 to 20 feet. Under this is 30 feet of solid clay; then darkish-coloured quartzose gravel, with abundant remains of wood to a depth of about 80 feet; and under this the "gutters," "leads," or runs of auriferous quartzose gravel—or "wash dirt"—are met with on the surface of the slate or on pipe-clay. The pits vary considerably in the sections they afford. The fragments of wood in the gravel are of all sizes, from tree-trunks, 3 or 4 feet in diameter, to branches and twigs; and this drift is throughout impregnated with woody particles, giving it a black appearance, especially towards the bottom. The cones of the "honeysuckle," or *Banksia*, have been found not unfrequently in this drift. These are very brittle, but the wood is often well preserved. Thin horizontal layers of very hard rock are imbedded in the gravel. Some of the "gutters" or "leads" were traced by the author on plans, showing their course beneath this drift across the present gullies and from hill to hill; especially the "Black Lead" and the "White Lead," underlying Little Hill, one of them having a branch from under Clarke's Hill, and both uniting before passing under Slaughter-Yard Hill. At Ballaarat, Mr. Redaway observed, in a pit on Sevastopol Hill, two layers of bluestone (the second bed about 80 feet thick) above the gold-drift or "wash-dirt," together with stiff clays and quartzose gravels. Here the author traced some gold-runs—the "Frenchman's Lead," "White Horse Lead," and "Terrible Lead," running parallel to each other in a direction transverse to that of the present gully, and from hill to hill. Like all other "leads," these rise generally in the neighbourhood of a quartz-vein (or "quartz-reef"), are shallow at first, 2 or 3 feet in depth, and gradually get deeper. 4. "On the Gold-Diggings at Ballaarat." By H. Rosales, Esq. (In a letter to W.W. Smyth, Esq., Sec. G.S.)—"By the aid of machinery, and through the alteration of the mining regulations granting extended claims, the old ground has been profitably re-worked; and, by the introduc-

tion of the frontage system, which, according to the difficulties to be overcome, grants extensive claims on new ground, the present 'leads,' most of which are N.W. of the Gravel Pits, under the townships, are advantageously worked. The amalgamation of three or more claims is also allowed, the miners having then to put down only one shaft. The engines most in use are stationary, of from 15 to 20 horse-power, with winding and reversing gear. To the end of the winding gear-shaft is attached the crank for the pump, and the motion is also taken to drive a puddling-machine, which is nothing but the *arrastra* working without mercury. The depth of sinking averages about 300 feet, of which in some instances there are as much as 200 of basalt to be cut through. At the junctions of the Frenchman's and White Horse Leads, in the Eldorado, the remains of a tree were found in an undisturbed position, with the roots fast in the wash-dirt; and it might be interesting to you to know that at Poverty Point the deep channel, with a N.W. strike, is crossed at about 140 feet higher by the shallow channel, which has a strike of N.E. by E., and which again, in its turn, is crossed, at a level of twenty or thirty feet still higher, by the present water-course, the strike of which is W. 5. "Notes on some Outline Drawings and Photographs of the Skull of *Zygomaturus trilobus*, Macleay, from Australia." By Professor Owen, F.R.S., F.G.S. About a month since Professor Owen received from Sir R. Murchison seven photographs, three of which are stereoscopic, of perhaps the most extraordinary mammalian fossil yet discovered in Australia. These photographs, with a brief printed notice of their subject by William Sharp Macleay, Esq., F.L.S., and some MS. notes by J. D. Macdonald, M.D., R.N., had been transmitted to Sir R. Murchison by his Excellency Governor Sir W. Denison, from Sydney, New South Wales; and by desire of Sir Roderick the Professor brought the subject under the notice of the Geological Society of London, to whom Sir Roderick desires to present the photographs on the part of his Excellency Sir W. Denison. [Collections of fossils and rock-specimens from Southern Australia, formerly presented to the Society, were laid on the table; and Professor Tennant, F.G.S., exhibited a valuable series of specimens of gold and other minerals from Australia. Lord Talbot de Malahide, F.G.S., exhibited a unique fossil cone from the colite of Bruton, Somerset. Messrs. Murray and Heath sent for exhibition a beautiful series of stereoscopic views of Alpine and other scenery.]

ANTIQUARIES, March 18th.—The Earl Stanhope, President, in the chair. The Rev. Thomas Hugo, exhibited pennies of Eadgar, Burgred, and Canute, all found in London during recent excavations. The Treasurer, by permission of the Rev. Lord John Thynne, exhibited the ring said to have been given by Queen Elizabeth to the Earl of Essex. The subject of this ring is discussed and the ring itself engraved in Captain Devereux's "Lives of the Devereuxs." It is also referred to in the "Edinburgh Review," vol. xviii. p. 163. It is a sardonyx, on which is cut in relief the head of Elizabeth. The Right Hon. Charles Tenynson D'Eyncourt exhibited a fac-simile of a portrait of John King of France, who died a prisoner in England, in 1364, executed from the original in the Louvre, by Mr. Edward Poynter. The copy is a wonderful example of the imitative art. Mr. Octavius Morgan, Vice-President, exhibited an ancient charter of the city of Cologne, dated in the year 1396, and having the seals of the twenty-two guilds appended to it. Some of these seals are remarkable as works of art. This document is the original charter in Low German of the fourteenth century, on the establishment of the new constitution in the above year consequent upon the tumults which had occurred in that city. This interesting record, with its seals, is in the most perfect preservation. Mr. John

Evans communicated remarks on a transcript of an inventory of the effects of Thomas Key, rector of the parish of St. Nicholas, Guildford, from 1592 to 1597, from the original in the possession of Mr. James More Molyneux, of Losely, Surrey.

ENTOMOLOGICAL, March 1st.—Dr. J. E. Gray, President, in the chair. Messrs. R. McLachlan and A. Boot were proposed for admission as Members. Mr. Smith exhibited a collection of insects collected in the vicinity of Sierra Leone, by Mr. Foxcroft, in December last; it included *Papilio Hippocoon*, *P. Pylades*, *Charaxes Brutus*, *Euchromia instructa*, *Tetratobus flabellicornis*, *Sternotomis regalis*, and *S. mirabilis*; also a Coleopterous insect allied to the genus *Myrmedonia*, found in a nest of the driver ant (*Anomma Burmeisteri*). Mr. Stevens exhibited a beautiful collection of insects taken by Mr. Wallace in the Ke and Aru Islands, near New Guinea; the *Lepidoptera* included the sexes of a variety of *Ornithoptera Priamus*, and the pupa case of the species; also *Papilio Euchenor*, *P. Ormenus*, *P. Ambrax*, *Hestia d'Urvillei*, some fine species of *Druilla*, and beautiful *Erycinide*, mostly species hitherto unknown; also some remarkable *Bombyses* and *Geometridae*. The *Coleoptera* consisted of some handsome species of *Eupholus*, a gigantic new *Micocorus*, several brilliant *Buprestida* and *Lomoptera*, and numerous species of *Smesisternus*. Mr. Westwood exhibited a *Torbix*, of the genus *Carpocapsa*, allied to *C. splendana* of Europe, which had been bred by Mrs. Wood, of St. Leonard's, from one of the "jumping seeds" sent from Mexico by Mr. Lettsom, which were exhibited at the meeting of the society in October last; also the larva of *Drilus flavescens*, which he had received from a correspondent. Mr. S. Saunders exhibited two specimens of *Leptoderus Hohenwartii*, one of the blind beetles from the Proteus cave at Adelsburg, in South Austria, where the specimens were found by him in the deepest part of the cavern. Mr. Stainton exhibited a small *Grometra*, found by Mr. Hunter, in London, some years ago, and referred by him to the *Geometra circuliaria* of Hubner, but which he had lately discovered to be the *Acidalia herbariata* of Guérin's recent work on the *Geometridae*.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—March 10th.—S. R. Solly, F.R.S., F.S.A., V.P., in the chair. Mr. Amiel exhibited a half-sovereign of Elizabeth, having a perforation to admit of its suspension as a medal. Mr. Pettigrew conjectured it to have been one of the few employed by the queen as a touch-piece for the cure of the evil. Mr. Amiel also exhibited a rare token of Thomas Burges, of Bicester, 1665. The Pewterers' arms are on the obverse. Mr. A. also exhibited a large German medal of silver, having on one side Peace and Justice hand-in-hand, with a third figure supporting a crowned column. Beneath is a cartouche, from which the engraving has been erased. The legend is—*Justitia et Pietas constans animoque triumphant*. On the opposite side is a view of a battle, the legend around being—*Auxiliante Deo Pressis Victoria venit* AN: MDC—X—. The numeral (or numerals) between the c and the x is erased, and 1 engraved in its stead; and whatever followed the date has also been erased, and 29 May engraved in its place, these changes making it appear a medal on the restoration of Charles II., May 29, 1660. This is not a solitary instance of an alteration in the original inscription of a medal. Ancient coins have frequently had letters erased, and in one case the Association had brought before its notice a well-known British coin converted into a unique type of Cimobelina. Mr. Syer Cuming read a paper on "Further Discoveries of Celtic and Roman remains in the Thames, off Battersea." He exhibited specimens from his own and Mr. Bateman's collections, consisting of bronze swords, daggers, spears, iron implements, &c. Mr. Wills exhibited a fine specimen of a German lock of the sixteenth century, with a singular combination of springs and bolts.

It had probably belonged to some large chest for holding muniments or articles of great value. Mr. Cuming exhibited a lock and key of the fifteenth century (*temp. Henry VII.*), of very fine workmanship. The Rev. Beale Poste gave an account of a remarkable find of Roman antiquities in an urn, at Marden, in the Weald of Kent. There must have been at least a hundred articles in bronze, many of which had become oxidized, and conglomerated into a mass, taking the shape of the vessel in which they were contained. Several were, however, in very fine condition, and consist of pins, part of a pendant fibula, ring-money, complete and cupped, a knife, spear-head, &c. They belonged to Mr. Golding, of Hutton, and will be engraved in the Journal. The Chairman announced that the Congress would be held during the first week in August, at Salisbury, under the Presidency of the Marquis of Ailesbury.

STATISTICAL.—March 15th.—*Anniversary Meeting.*—The Right Hon. Holt Mackenzie, Vice-President, in the chair. Mr. Newmarch, one of the Honorary Secretaries, read the Annual Report of the Council and the balance sheets of receipts and expenditure and of assets and liabilities. The receipts during the year 1857 had been 870*l.*, and the expenditure 755*l.*, and the balance in the hands of the bankers on the 31st December, 1857, was 168*l.* The number of Fellows is now 367. The report mentioned the completion of the twentieth annual volume of the 'Statistical Journal,' and a list of the papers read at the monthly meetings was given. Under a special sanction accorded by the Board of Trade, Mr. Fonblanque and Dr. Farr were authorized to invite the International Statistical Congress to hold its fourth Meeting in London, which event will take place in August or September next year (1859), and this Society will no doubt take an active part in its proceedings. The Council hope to present to the Society ere long a second report on the Beneficent Institutions of the Metropolis. The report then mentions Fellows deceased during the past twelve months, and finishes with a tribute of respect to the memory of the late venerable Mr. Tooke. The report and financial statement having been unanimously adopted, a ballot for the President, Council, and Officers for the ensuing twelve-months, was taken, and the following gentlemen were elected:—Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M.P., President; Charles Babbage, M.A., F.R.S., James Bird, M.D., Sir John Peter Boileau, Bart., F.R.S., Samuel Brown, Edward Cheshire, William Farr, M.D., D.C.L., F.R.S., Viscount Ebrington, M.P., Albany Fonblanque, the Right Hon. Wm. Ewart Gladstone, M.P., James William Gilbert, F.R.S., Francis Henry Goldsmid, Q.C., William Augustus Guy, M.B., the Right Hon. the Earl of Harrowby, Bernard Hebel, Frederick Hendriks, James Heywood, F.R.S., William Barwick Hodge, Thomas Hodgkin, M.D., Robert Hunt, F.R.S., William Golden Lumley, the Right Hon. Holt Mackenzie, F.R.G.S., Richard Monckton Milnes, M.P., William Newmarch, the Right Hon. Sir John Somerset Pakington, Bart., M.P., Right Hon. Lord Stanley, M.P., Colonel W. H. Sykes, M.P., F.R.S., John William Tottie, Colonel Sir A. M. Tulloch, K.C.B., Richard Valpy, Lord Harry George Vane, M.P., William Arthur Wilkinson, Council; William Farr, M.D., D.C.L., F.R.S., Treasurer; William Newmarch, William Augustus Guy, M.B., William Golden Lumley, Honorary Secretaries.

March 16th.—Charles Jellicoe, Esq., in the chair. Lord Radstock and John Leslie Pilkington, Esq., were elected Fellows of the Society. A paper was read by Mr. W. A. Wilkinson "On Railway Terminal Accommodation, and its Effects upon Traffic Results."

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—March 17th.—Sir Thomas Phillips in the chair. The following gentlemen were elected Members:—Messrs. Joseph Fenn, Elkanah Healey, T. A. Hedley, Sir Cusack Roney,

and T. B. W. Sheppard. The paper read was "On the Past and Present of French Agriculture," by Monsieur F. R. de la Trehonnais.

March 24th.—Joseph Glynn, Esq., F.R.S., Vice-President, in the chair. The paper read was by Mr. Thomas Allan, "On Electro-Magnetism as a Motive Power." He considered the subject under three heads: first, how to apply the force of magnetic attraction economically in a machine, taking advantage of its maximum force only, with a consequent minimum of consumption, and continuing that power to any length of stroke required; secondly, how to establish the right proportions between a given amount of electricity and the length and diameter of a magnet, so as to produce the maximum of magnetic effect with the minimum of electrical consumption; thirdly, the economical production of electricity and working of the battery. After giving a brief sketch of some of the advantages of this new motive power, he illustrated its action with an ingeniously-constructed machine. The experiment was perfectly successful, and seemed to give great satisfaction to the audience.

LINNEAN, March 18th.—Thomas Bell, Esq., President, in the chair. John Cockle, Esq., M.D., and William Hitchman, Esq., M.D., were elected Fellows. A cast of a bust, by McDowell, of the late Dr. Pereira, F.R.S. and L.S., was presented by Mrs. Pereira. Mr. Ward, F.L.S., exhibited a remarkable specimen of ship-timber, perforated in all directions by a species of *Teredo*, as exemplifying the manner in which the sunken fleet at Sebastopol had been destroyed by these animals. Read:—1st. "Contributions to the Anatomy and Natural History of the *Cetacea*," by Robert Knox, Esq., M.D., F.R.S. (Communicated by the Secretary.) 2nd. "A Note on the Genus *Abneta*, of Aublet," by N. Griesbach, Professor of Botany in the University of Göttingen. (Communicated by Dr. J. D. Hooker, F.R.S.)

PHILOLOGICAL.—Feb. 4th.—Herbert Coleridge, Esq., in the chair. The Rev. R. Littledale was elected a Member. Presents of books for the use of the Society's New Dictionary Committee were announced from Dr. Macbride, Beriah Botfield, Esq., M.P., and J. Mayer, Esq. The paper read was "A Supplemental Paper on the Keltic suffix *agh*, as occurring in Latin, Greek, and the related Languages," by Professor Key.

Feb. 18th.—The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of St. David's, President, in the chair. Christopher Roberts, Esq., was elected a Member, and Rev. F. Crawford was re-admitted a Member. Presents of Capgrave's 'Chronicle of England,' from the editor, and Döhne's 'Kulu-Kafir Dictionary,' from the author, were announced. The papers read were—1. "On the Confirmation of my *agh* Theory to be found in the Anglo-Saxon and Old Norse," by Professor Key. 2. "On Certain Classes in African Philology, especially the Mandingo, Kouri, and Nufi Groups," by Dr. R. G. Latham.

March 18.—Hensleigh Wedgwood, Esq., in the chair. 'The Journal of the American Oriental Society' was presented by that society. Dr. Barham and Cornelius Paine, Esq., were elected Members. The paper read was "On the Structure of the Hungarian language, followed by some Remarks on its recent formations," by F. Pulszky, Esq.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Monday.—United Service Institution, 3½ p.m.—(Capt. Nolloth, R.N., On the Atlantic Telegraph Cable.) Institute of Actuaries, 7 p.m.—(Mr. Sprague, On the Terms upon which the Business of one Insurance Company may be equitably transferred to another.) **Tuesday.**—Institution of Civil Engineers, 8 p.m.—(Mr. R. C. Despard, On Improvements of the River Lee Navigation, with Remarks on Canals.) **Wednesday.**—Chemical, 8 p.m.—(Anniversary.) **Thursday.**—Artists' and Amateurs' Conversazione, 8 p.m.—Linnean, 8 p.m.—(C. Dresser, Esq., On Contributions to Organographic Botany.) Chemical, 8 p.m.

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NOTICE.—The Directors beg to state, that a Premium upon a Policy of Insurance effected with this Office paid within the twenty-one days of grace, has always been, and will continue to be, held as a valid payment, the same as if such Premium had been paid on the day it became due, notwithstanding death may have happened in the mean time.

The Directors also beg to state, that they have resolved, should the Life Insured die within the twenty-one days, and formal intimation to that effect in writing be given to the Office within that period, the Premium may be deducted from the Sum Insured when the claim is paid.

For the satisfaction of Policy-holders, a Copy of this Notice, duly signed by the Resident Director of the Company, may be had on application to the Office.

24th February, 1858.

By Order of the Board,

E. LENNOX BOYD, Resident Director.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

CLERICAL, MEDICAL, AND GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

13, ST. JAMES'S SQUARE, LONDON, S.W.

ESTABLISHED 1824.

All Persons who effect Policies on the Participating Scale BEFORE JUNE 30th, 1858, will be entitled at the NEXT BONUS to one year's share of Profits beyond last Assurers.

Proposals should be forwarded to the Office before June 20th. The last Annual Report, as also a statement of the SIXTH BONUS, declared in January, 1857, setting forth in detail the whole state and affairs of the Office, and especially the benefits which will hereafter accrue to Persons now assuring, can be obtained of any of the Society's Agents, or from the Office.

GEORGE H. PINCKARD, Actuary.

GEORGE CUTCLIFFE, Assistant Actuary.

13, St. James's Square, London, S.W.

Commission.

TEN PER CENT. on the First Premium, and Five per Cent. on Renewals, will be allowed to all Members of the Legal Profession. The Commission will be continued to the Person introducing the Assurance, without reference to the channel through which the Premiums may be paid.

SUN LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY, LONDON.

The Profits of this Society will be divided in future, Quinquennially instead of Septennially; and Policies will participate at each division, after three annual payments of premium have been made, instead of five as heretofore.

Policies effected now, or before Midsummer, 1860, will participate in four-fifths, or 80 per cent. of the Profits at the next division in January, 1863, according to the conditions contained in the Society's Prospectus.

The Premiums required by this Society for insuring young lives are lower than in many other old-established Offices, and Insurers are fully protected from all risk by an ample guarantee fund in addition to the accumulated funds derived from the investments of Premiums.

Policy Stamps paid by the Office.

Prospectuses may be obtained at the Office in Threadneedle Street, London, or of any of the Agents of the Society.

CHARLES HENRY LIDDERDALE, Actuary.

BANK OF DEPOSIT. Established A.D. 1844.

3, PALL MALL EAST, LONDON.

Parties desirous of DEPOSITING MONEY are requested to examine the Plan of the BANK or DEPOSIT, by which a high rate of interest may be obtained with ample security.

The Interest is payable in January and July.

PETER MORRISON, Managing Director.

Forms for opening Accounts sent free on application.

CLARKE'S NEW PATENT PYRAMID

NIGHT-LAMPS: Tin at 1s.; Lacquered or Bronzed, 1s. 6d. each, for burning the NEW PATENT PYRAMID NIGHT-LIGHTS, the most convenient, safe, and economical yet introduced. Sold by all Grocers and Lamp Dealers; and wholesale by R. Clarke, 55, Albany Street, Regent's Park, and by Palmer and Co., Clerkenwell, London, E.C.

GLENFIELD PATENT STARCH.

USED IN THE ROYAL LAUNDRY.

And pronounced by Her Majesty's Laundress to be

THE FINEST STARCH SHE EVER USED.

Sold by all Chandlers, Grocers, &c., &c.

DR. DE JONGH'S

LIGHT-BROWN COD-LIVER OIL, the purest and most palatable, is prescribed by the most eminent British and Foreign Physicians.

OPINION OF DR. PEREIRA, F.R.S.

"WHETHER CONSIDERED WITH REFERENCE TO ITS COLOUR, FLAVOUR, OR CHEMICAL PROPERTIES, I AM SATISFIED THAT, FOR MEDICAL PURPOSES, NO FINEER OIL CAN BE PROCURED."

Sold ONLY IN IMPERIAL Half-pints, 2s. 6d.; Pints, 4s. 6d.; Quarts, 8s.; capsealed and labelled with Dr. de Jongh's stamp and signature, WITHOUT WHICH NONE CAN POSSIBLY BE GENUINE, by most respectable Chemists.

SOLE BRITISH CORRESPONDENTS.

ANBAR, HARFORD, and Co., 77, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

RAPID RECOVERY.—HOLLOWAY'S

PILLS AND OINTMENT.—About twelve months since Mr. Holme, Woodside, Horsforth, was seized by a serious prostrating weakness. Six months afterwards an eruption took place in his leg. He immediately placed himself under treatment of the most eminent men in Liverpool and Manchester; but, to use his own words, "gradually got worse, and was prevented following any employment during the whole time." He removed to Horsforth. A friend there induced him to try the effect of Holloway's medicines. He purchased them, followed the instructions, and was cured in a few weeks. He wishes Mr. Holloway, druggist, to make his case known.—Sold by all Medicine Vendors throughout the World, and at Professor Holloway's Establishments, 244, Strand, London.

Now ready, PART II. (to be completed in FIFTY PARTS), containing SIX COLOURED PLATES, price 3s.

PHYCOLOGIA AUSTRALICA ;

OR,

A HISTORY OF AUSTRALIAN SEA-WEEDS :

CONTAINING

COLOURED FIGURES, GENERIC AND SPECIFIC CHARACTERS, SYNONYMES, AND DESCRIPTIONS OF THE MORE CHARACTERISTIC MARINE ALGÆ OF NEW SOUTH WALES, VICTORIA, TASMANIA, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, AND WESTERN AUSTRALIA,

BY WILLIAM HENRY HARVEY, M.D. M.R.I.A., F.L.S.

PROFESSOR OF BOTANY IN THE UNIVERSITY OF DUBLIN.

In the year 1853 the author undertook a botanical voyage to the Australian Colonies, with the sanction and under the auspices of the University of Dublin, and of the Royal Dublin Society, both which corporate bodies contributed to his outfit, and, in great measure, supplied the funds on which he travelled. He visited in succession the Colonies of Western Australia, Victoria, Tasmania, and New South Wales; and in the eighteen months which he spent on the Australian shores, collected, prepared, and dried upwards of 20,000 specimens of 600 species of Algæ; besides incidentally making collections of marine zoology to a considerable extent, and drying land plants wherever he had the opportunity. Full sets of his collections have been placed in the University Museum and Herbarium; a set of the botanical collections, nearly as full, has been sent to the Hookerian Herbarium at Kew, and the duplicate Algæ that remained over have been sold towards payment of the expenses of the journey.

The duplicates having thus been widely scattered, it has appeared to the author that a work illustrating these dispersed collections would be acceptable to those who possess them, and might be made subservient to a wider purpose—that of promoting the study of marine botany in our Australian dependencies. In England, the publication of serial works, accompanied by plates or woodcuts, and confined to separate branches either of zoology or of botany, has been found greatly to promote the study of natural history in general. The student who commences with one branch, when he has in degree mastered it, is led on to another: and thus one who begins by picking up a few shells or sea-weeds on occasional visits to the shore, often ends in becoming an expert naturalist. The author is gratified by knowing that his *PHYCOLOGIA BRITANNICA* has obtained a considerable circulation among amateur collectors of marine plants, and he trusts has been useful in leading many persons to observe and study some of the most beautiful and delicate of nature's vegetable productions. In now commencing a *PHYCOLOGIA AUSTRALICA*, though he cannot look for so large an audience, at least at the outset, yet he hopes his work may win some favour from the colonial public, for whose use it is more especially designed. Great cities are springing up in the Australian colonies, and watering-places, to which the citizen takes his family to enjoy the sea-breeze during the summer time, are coming into being. English tastes and habits are reproduced at the antipodes; and among these a love of natural history may be prominently reckoned. Our fellow-countrymen, wherever they go, bring or send home specimens of natural objects, and there is, perhaps, no country where collections of botanical and zoological specimens are more widely dispersed than in England among the population. Already in Australia there are many intelligent collectors of Algæ, and all that seems wanting to induce many more to pursue this pleasing branch of botany is some book in which they will find an intelligible account of these plants, and of their classification.

The present work, it is hoped, will serve the purpose both of the expert botanist and of the amateur. The former will find a technical description of each plant; and the latter will have presented to his or her eye a coloured drawing, accompanied, when necessary, with such magnified dissections as will enable any one possessed of a microscope to refer with certainty the figure before him to the plant which it represents.

Unfortunately—as some may think—for the amateur, the classification of Algæ is based on characters which it often requires a microscopic examination to ascertain. This presents a difficulty at the outset, which is only gradually overcome as the student's knowledge of types of form becomes extended. After all, however, the generic types are not very numerous, and, when once known, are easily remembered and discriminated.

The number of species of Algæ dispersed along the Australian coasts may, perhaps, be estimated at nearly 1,000. The number actually known is about 800. To figure each of these on a separate plate, would too greatly enhance the price of the work, and place it beyond the reach of an ordinary purchaser. It is therefore proposed to limit the number of plates to 300, and to select, from the ample materials supplied by the Dublin University Herbarium, such forms as are most characteristic of the Australian marine Flora; care being taken to figure at least one species of every genus. Figures of many Australian Algæ have already been given in the author's '*NEREIS AUSTRALIS*,' and in the '*FLORA NOVE ZELANDIÆ*' and '*FLORA TASMANICA*' of his friend Dr. Hooker. As a general rule, species figured in these works will not be repeated; but exceptions will be made in favour of some characteristic types of form which cannot be omitted without injury to the scope of the present work.

Before closing this Advertisement the author takes the opportunity of soliciting from collectors of Algæ resident in Australia, specimens in aid of the work. It is, he trusts, the interest of every Australian Algologist, that a work undertaken to illustrate the Algæ of Australia should be made as perfect as possible; and to make it perfect will require *well-dried* specimens of as many species as can be procured. For even though all be not *figured* in our volumes, those that are omitted will be briefly described and compared with figures of species they most resemble, in a general *synopsis* intended to be prefixed to the last volume. Collections of specimens will therefore be thankfully received and gratefully acknowledged. Nor will the advantage herein be all on the side of the author. For if collectors who send him specimens will *carefully* number them, and keep a duplicate set numbered to correspond with that forwarded, he will undertake to send in return *names*, according to the list of numbers. In this way the student may easily have his whole collection correctly named, provided he make no mistake in putting two different plants under one number.

Collections of specimens intended for the author may be sent to CHARLES MOORE, ESQ., Botanic Gardens, Sydney; to Dr. FERDINAND MUELLER, Botanic Gardens, Melbourne; or to GEORGE CLIFTON, ESQ., Fremantle, Western Australia. Or, if sent to England, they may be addressed to Sir W. J. HOOKER, Royal Gardens, Kew; or to the Publisher—

LOVELL REEVE, 5, HENRIETTA STREET, COVENT GARDEN.